

Wednesday September 23 1998

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The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Dead after four gold medals

Did Flo-jo pay the price?

G2 with European weather



Giving him a break

Why Hollywood loves the President

G2 pages 10-11



Floods of tears

The sinking of Bangladesh

Society, G2 pages 12-13

Tehran hopes for closer ties with lifting of support for bounty

Iran lifeline for Rushdie

Bullish White House aims to cut a deal

Martin Kettle in Washington

A BULLISH White House reopened discussions with Congress about a compromise solution last night as American public opinion rallied to President Bill Clinton in the wake of Monday's trial-by-television in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

The administration's private discussions with both Republicans and Democrats on Capitol Hill centred on a package which could include a direct appeal by Mr Clinton in front of both Houses of Congress, followed by the adoption of a bipartisan censure motion accusing him of "demeaning" the presidency. An early deal still seems unlikely in view of Republican determination to press ahead with a formal impeachment inquiry before Congress adjourns on October 9. But there is increasing expectation that such a "plea bargain" will help to keep a weakened Mr Clinton in the White House for the remaining two years of his term.

"There are many ideas under discussion," the White House spokesman Mike McCurry said yesterday. Talks between the administration and Congressional leaders and their staffs were continuing "at various levels", he added. "This will have to be something that works for the House of Representatives and that works for the American people."

One of the White House's most crucial adversaries, Senate Republican leader Trent Lott, said Mr Clinton should come up to Capitol Hill and answer questions, but doubted whether such a move would stay the pressure for impeachment.

Any time the president comes forward and comes clean in a formal setting it turns to page 2, column 6

San Black in New York

IRAN is preparing to formally and publicly withdraw its support for the fatwa on Salman Rushdie, biding on the prospect of an end to the author's nine years of living under constant protection and in fear for his life. A \$2 million (£1.2 million) bounty was put on Rushdie's head by Islamic militants in 1989 after the late Ayatollah Khomeini effectively passed a death sentence on the writer for his award-winning book *The Satanic Verses*. The author has since been forced to live in a succession of safe houses under round-the-clock police surveillance.

The Iranians hope the move to disassociate Tehran from the bounty will lead to a new diplomatic relationship with Britain, and help Tehran emerge from its pariah status.

The Rushdie fatwa, which brought furious reaction at home and abroad and impeded debate about the balance between free speech and religious tolerance, has bedevilled Iranian-British relations for nearly a decade and defied all previous attempts to circumvent it. Two years ago the European Union failed to persuade Iran to tone up with a form of words that would satisfy Britain.

Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's foreign minister, plans to make an explicit commitment when he meets Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, in New York tomorrow, the Guardian has learned. "The move will pave the way for a long-sought British ministerial visit to Tehran and the upgrading of diplomatic ties."

Mohammed Khatami, Iran's reforming president, told reporters in New York yesterday that the Rushdie affair was "completely finished" and that his government "has no decision in this matter".

But with strong private indications of a new readiness to go beyond that familiar formula, the last and most difficult obstacle will be cleared for a full resumption of diplomatic ties.

The Satanic years

Sept 1988: Viking Penguin publishes *The Satanic Verses*.

Jan 1989: Book burned in Bradford. Muslims demonstrate in Hyde Park.

Feb 1989: Ayatollah Khomeini issues a fatwa. Rushdie in hiding. Five die in protests in Pakistan.

Sept 1989: Small bombs found in four British, Penguin bookshops.

Feb 1990: Fatwa renewed. Muslims seek trial for blasphemy which fails.

Dec 1990: Taxpayers pay \$1 million a year to protect Rushdie, it emerges.

Feb 1993: Rushdie announces he will gradually emerge from hiding.

Feb 1998: Robin Cook vows to put pressure on Iran. Rushdie meets Blair.

They deteriorated further a decade later when the fatwa ordering the killing of Mr Rushdie, aged 51, was declared.

Now, after months of discreet but intensifying contacts at senior level, Mr Kharrazi is likely to tell Mr Cook that the Iranian government is calling on the Khomeini Foundation, which in 1989 offered the \$2million bounty, to drop the offer and provide other firm indications that the affair is over.

Iran has long claimed that the fatwa is an immutable religious edict, even though it has no plans to send anyone to kill the author. But Britain, anxious to end the affair so it can follow other less reticent Europeans in improving political and economic relations with Tehran, has insisted it must have more explicit guarantees.

Mr Rushdie's own supporters have been urging the government to focus on the issue of the bounty money, acknowledging that the fatwa itself cannot be revoked or annulled because

of its theological nature. Muslims throughout the world saw the *Satanic Verses* as blasphemous and its publication was followed by mass book-burnings and attacks on publishers and translators associated with it. Mr Rushdie has lived under Special Branch protection ever since, though he has been seen in public in the last few years.

Hints of the imminent breakthrough came as Mr Khatami continued his charm offensive in the US, telling journalists he welcomed President Bill Clinton's speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Monday and repeating his own wish for relations based on mutual respect.

"We welcome any respectful mention of our nation, culture and civilization and we too have shown that we want to talk with respect about other cultures and civilisations," Mr Khatami said yesterday.

As Iranian exiles demonstrated outside the UN headquarters — one even burst into the General Assembly as Mr Khatami was speaking — Mr Clinton listed the Iranian people among the victims of terrorism, alongside a more familiar list that included Israelis, Palestinians and Algerians. But what both leaders did not say was even more striking. Mr Khatami barely mentioned, let alone criticised, the US a far cry from the furious rhetoric about the "Great Satan" that once dominated a dialogue between two countries which have often seemed obsessed with each other.

And Mr Clinton made no mention of long-standing US charges — still formalised in an annual listing by the US state department — that the Islamic republic was a state sponsor of terror.

The reformist president is locked in a fierce power struggle with hardline conservative Islamists backing supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the same game which has made it so difficult to meet Britain's demands for an end to the Rushdie affair.



Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, has spent nine years living in fear for his life

PHOTOGRAPH: STEVE PIVKE

Sceptics up in arms as Europe's bankers cut off queen's head



Arch rival to the Queen: a bridge on one of the euro notes

Audrey Gillen

THE Queen's head rolled yesterday: straight off the face of the euro note. In a move that has caused rancour among those opposed to the single currency, European Central Bank bosses decided that if Britain did, one day, want to embrace the single currency then the price would be Her Majesty's head.

Instead, the notes will be graced with the European flag superimposed on designs of windows, doors and bridges. Such images

were supposed to symbolise cooperation and openness but have instead raised hackles across the country.

Tory MP Sir Teddy Taylor described the decision as "an insult to Britain and the royal family". Shadow foreign secretary Michael Howard called on the prime minister to act to overturn the "absurd" decision. He said: "It illustrates that all the fine words about national identities remaining undiluted under a single currency were just for the birds."

Mr Howard cited a pre-election article written by

Tony Blair in which he protested his "Love For E" and said: "I know exactly what the British people feel when they see the Queen's head on a £10 note. I felt it too."

Opposition leader William Hague said that the threat to the Queen's head was a "warning signal to the British people". Constitutional historian, Dr David Starkey, found the decision worrying. "The monarch's head is an instant national symbol for us and for people around the world," he said. "It is clear to me that Europe will not tolerate

each nation having its own identity, which is very worrying. What next? Will we have to remove the Queen's head from postage stamps?"

The news has enraged those who believe that Europe has already taken away too much of Britain's sovereignty. Even pro-Europeans like Stephen Woodard, director of the European Movement, said he was disappointed but not surprised by the news. He did add, however, that the Queen's head had only been on British notes since the early 1960s.

Last night the Treasury was girding itself for an onslaught from the public. A spokesman explained that the royal pate could still be saved through a previous intervention on its behalf by Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England. He has reserved the right for the UK to include the Queen's head on the reverse side of banknotes issued in the UK. Coins, said the spokesman, would definitely hold the Queen's head following the Chancellor, Gordon Brown's intervention.

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Inside

Britain

A young offenders' institution in which 192 children are kept two in a cell has been condemned by the chief inspector of prisons as disgraceful.

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Analysis

The death of Florence Griffith Joyner has focused attention on performance-enhancing drugs. Vivek Chaudhary reports on how stars try to avoid detection.

Page 11

Sport

Fans at next year's rugby world cup will have to pay a high price for their tickets. The game has been seen as a ticket in Cardiff costing up to £120.

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Environment

500,000 birds are expected to be killed in the next few days by a severe cold snap.

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In **The Guardian G2** today: The President's other star report: Why won't Hollywood give President Clinton a break?

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Cook 'undermined on ethical policy'

Whitehall is disregarding human rights agenda, says Amnesty

Nicholas Watt
Political Correspondent

ROBIN Cook's attempts to place an ethical foreign policy at the heart of government are being undermined by three Whitehall departments which are disregarding human rights, Amnesty International claimed yesterday.

In a review of the Govern-

ment's record on human rights, Amnesty criticised the Department of Trade and Industry for allowing British firms to export arms to repressive regimes, while the Ministry of Defence is accused of promoting arms sales without adequate safeguards. The Home Office is criticised for sending a message to asylum seekers to keep out of Britain.

The Amnesty report said that since the general election

the DTI had granted 289 export licences for military equipment to countries where there were "serious human rights abuses". It granted 10 licences for exports to Algeria, 10 to Colombia, 59 to Saudi Arabia, 64 to Indonesia, and 146 to Turkey.

In its assault on the licence system, Amnesty cited the Scott report into the arms-to-Iraq scandal, which accused the DTI of placing the interests of business above all other considerations. The Scott report said the department left "opposition to be formulated by other departments".

Amnesty recommended that the DTI's wings should be clipped by establishing an independent body, within Customs and Excise, which would have the sole responsibility for decisions on export licences.

David Bull, Amnesty's UK director, said the DTI's conduct showed that Mr Cook's human rights agenda was being undermined by other government departments. Mr Bull said: "Balanced against the Government's human rights achievements in the last year is the concern that progress is being undermined by the lack of willingness in

some departments to put human rights on the agenda. As long as the increased commitment to human rights remains confined to only parts of government, we will continue to see inconsistencies of policy and opportunities lost."

The DTI hit back at Amnesty for giving a distorted view of the system for granting export licences, because the department awarded licences after detailed consultation with the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Defence. Foreign Office sources said last night that they had supported all the licences cited in

the Amnesty report. However, one source indicated that there were often protracted discussions between the three departments because they were responsible for making recommendations in specific areas which often conflicted. The Foreign Office assesses a country's record on human rights and what implications a licence would have for regional stability. The MoD advises on regional security, while the DTI evaluates whether a licence should be issued.

Mr Cook's advisers took heart from the report last night because it praised his plan to publish an annual report on the export of arms and his role in drawing up an EU Code of Conduct on Arms Control.

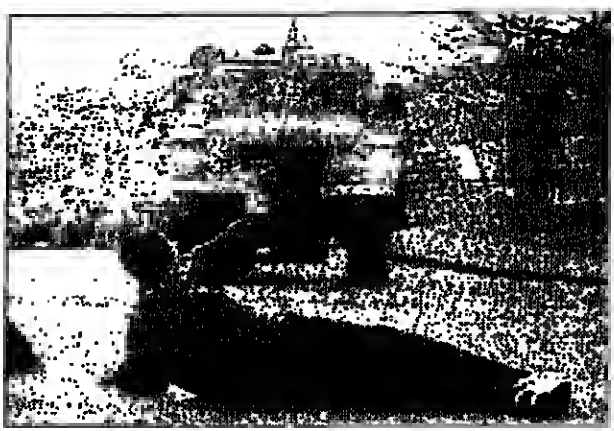
Amnesty said that his ethical policy had "marked an important step forward" from the approach of previous governments and had led to "concrete measures which may improve human rights in the world".

However, the report made less comfortable reading for the Home Office, which is criticised for operating an "invidious" asylum system. Amnesty accused the Government of double standards for

criticising attacks on civil liberties by repressive regimes and then preventing refugees from entering Britain.

The report said: "Genuine asylum seekers continue to face a Home Office presumption of deceit when their cases are decided. They often also receive inadequate support to allow them to live with dignity during the long days in deciding their cases caused by Home Office inefficiency."

The Home Office said last night that the forthcoming White Paper on asylum would bring a faster and fairer system of immigration and asylum control.



Mobs in riot after failed invasion

Alex Duval Smith reports from Lesotho where South Africa launched a cross-border attack

LYNCH mobs went on the rampage in Lesotho yesterday after South African troops botched an invasion of the landlocked, mountainous kingdom, leaving the capital, Maseru, in flames and dozens of soldiers and civilians dead or wounded.

After a dawn invasion by 500 troops, ordered into the independent country to secure the ruling party's hold on power, axe-wielding youths cruised through Maseru, looting shops and attacking people and targets perceived to be South African.

Last night, heavy mortar fire could still be heard as South African infantry, backed by 200 troops from Botswana, continued to shell the

Makoanyane military base near the capital. Fighting was also reported around Katse Dam, east of Maseru, which is part of a South African water project to supply the neighbouring Free State.

Themba, a 16-year-old in a mob which yesterday afternoon was stoning cars on the road to Makoanyane, said: "The South Africans want to take over our country. The first helicopters arrived at 4am. They are still firing at Makoanyane. We will not tolerate this invasion."

The intervention — which so far has left five South African soldiers dead, at least as many civilian casualties and around 50 injured — was ordered by the home affairs minister, Mangosuthu Buthe-



South African troops in Maseru yesterday, above, after convoys moved into Lesotho at dawn to be met by protests, top left

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: WALTER DUNHAM

lez, after a written request from the ruling Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD).

It came in the wake of a controversial report by southern African constitutional experts into parliamentary elections in May in which the LCD won 79 out of 80 seats.

The report, which found that there had been small irregularities in the election but did not recommend a new poll, was requested by King Letsie III after months of popular protests against the first-past-the-post result.

Yesterday, under fire from MPs in Cape Town, Mr Buthe-lezi said he ordered the intervention in his capacity as acting president while Nelson Mandela and his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, were abroad.

"The purpose of the intervention is to stabilise the situation for the purposes of achieving a lasting political solution," he told parliament.

But on the burning streets of Maseru — a city of 200,000 people in a country so impoverished it does not even have a fire brigade — the intervention was seen as interference

in the affairs of a sovereign country.

One woman in a 200-strong crowd of people attempting to leave Lesotho at the Ladybrand border crossing with the Free State said: "They have no business here. The king did not ask the soldiers to come. We can sort out our own problems."

In common with the army and most ordinary people of Lesotho, who are known as Basotho, she believed the May 3 poll was rigged in favour of the LCD and that last week's report into it, by a

South African judge, Plus Langa, was biased in favour of the LCD.

To all intents and purposes, the former British protectorate of Basutoland, which has a population of two million people, is a South African colony. Its main export is male labour for South African mines and the giant nation which encloses it has a history of interference in its affairs.

But yesterday's intervention, which appears not to have been sanctioned by King Letsie III, is likely to swing

popular opinion against South Africa. Until now, the Basotho have accepted South Africa's influence and economic support but have been determined to remain independent so as to keep their monarchy.

Mr Buthelezi quoted to the South African parliament two letters from Lesotho's prime minister, Phakalitha Mosisili. "In essence, we have a coup on our hands. We are a government and a city under siege," said one letter, reflecting the Lesotho military's support for the opposition.

The intervention — the first on foreign territory by the South African armed forces since the end of apartheid — is the latest drama in a post-independence history that has seen a king deposed and two military coups.

Mr Buthelezi said talks would be held today between the government and police on one hand, and the 2,000-strong army and opposition on the other. But with fighting still raging around Makoanyane, looting progressing and Maseru in flames, his prediction seemed optimistic.

A right old Carry On, yet refreshingly different

Review

Michael Billington

Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle and Dick
Lyttelton Theatre

WE SEEM to have been inundated lately with leaden analyses of the Carry On movies. But Terry Johnson's new play at the National comes up with something refreshingly different: it offers both a pastiche of the Carry On style and a lament for the slow demise of a strand of popular comedy. As such, it seems a natural sequel to the same author's Dead Funny.

Johnson uses the four films

referred to in the title — though Dick should come before Emmanuelle — as stage posts in the genre's rise and fall. More particularly, he shows how the relationship between Sid James and Barbara Windsor mirrors the progress of the movies themselves.

At the time of Cleo in 1964, when they first meet, all is bubbly and buoyant and every line tells a dirty story. By Emmanuelle in 1978, Sid is dead, the films have lost their box-office appeal and something vital, suggests Johnson, has gone out of English comic life.

In a sense, Johnson is doing something similar to Osborne in The Entertainer. In that play the decline of Archie Rice and the collapse of the music hall became a metaphor for the moral decay of England at

the time of Suez. The only problem is that Sid James is no Archie, the Carry On movies were up and down, and Johnson makes little reference to external events; you could, in fact, argue that the 14 years in the history of the Carry Ons covered by the play take us from the renewed hope of the Wilson 1964 election to the eve of Thatcherism.

But it is a highly enjoyable play — especially in the first half when Johnson assumes the actors embody their on-screen personas. Sid is a womanising gambler who tells his innocent new female dresser "you'll be seeing a lot of me". Kenneth Williams, in constant outrage about his professional humiliations and his piles, tells the equally suffering Sid: "You want your

bum in the hands of a Harley Street man." And Barbara Windsor supplies the effervescence that keeps everyone in Sid James's Merry Traveller movie-caravan happy.

The second half is more of a prolonged dying fall as the affair between Sid and Barbara, like the Carry On films themselves, hits the buffers. But there is still a lot of punch in the writing, with the witty Windsor saying of her beloved colleague: "Kenny doesn't fancy other men — he just fancies himself," and with the lugubrious Williams announcing of life in general: "Just when you've had enough of it, you've got your sixties to get through."

Johnson's production neatly mirrors the style of the films, helped by William Dud-

ley's design, which frames the stage with an Odeon-style proscenium. Geoffrey Hutchings, though he sometimes sacrifices audibility to vocal accuracy, nicely catches the paradox by which the lecherous Sid falls prey to helpless love. Samantha Spiro uncannily embodies the good-hearted Barbara, and Adam Godley is outstanding as a Kenneth Williams who exists in a permanent huff and a state of self-mocking desperation.

Whether the Carry Ons really did symbolise something valuable in English life is open to debate. But Johnson skilfully convinces you they did and offers an eloquent portrait of their exuberance and gradual extinction.

This review appeared in some editions yesterday.

Clinton may escape with censure motion in 'plea bargain' to save his presidency

continued from page 1

would be a positive development," Mr Lott said. The moves came as the first opinion polls after Mr Clinton's televised grand jury testimony on Monday showed a surge of sympathy to the beleaguered president, and as he met the Japanese prime minister in New York, continuing his strategy of distancing himself from the public fight for his survival.

Sixty-six per cent of Americans in a Gallup poll for CNN television and USA Today said Mr Clinton should not be impeached, a rise of 6 per cent from a week ago.

Mr Clinton's job approval ratings were also up six points at 66 per cent after a drop to 60 at the weekend. The president's job approval

ratings were 64 per cent a week ago, after the publication of the report of independent counsel Kenneth Starr.

Mr Starr's support for impeachment came under fresh fire from the White House, with the president's lawyers writing to the House of Representatives judiciary committee to complain of bias in the report, which recommended 11 counts of impeachment.

Setting on more favourable material to Mr Clinton in previously unpublished evidence released by Congress on Monday, Mr McCurry slammed the Starr report as "grossly unfair" and "one-sided". The independent counsel had committed "a grievous wrong" against Mr Clinton. "In a 445-page referral, the Office of the Independent

Counsel ... didn't find room for one statement of Monica Lewinsky: 'No one ever asked me to lie and I was never promised a job for my silence'."

The Congressional response to the videotape was taking shape last night with Republican and Democrat leaders meeting today to fix a more bipartisan approach to the crisis, and to decide what to do with 17 more boxes of evidence due to be made public before next Monday.

They contain transcripts of grand jury evidence from the former White House employee Linda Tripp, Mr Clinton's secretary Betty Currie and presidential fixers Bruce Lindsey and Vernon Jordan, and are believed to strengthen Mr Clinton's case.

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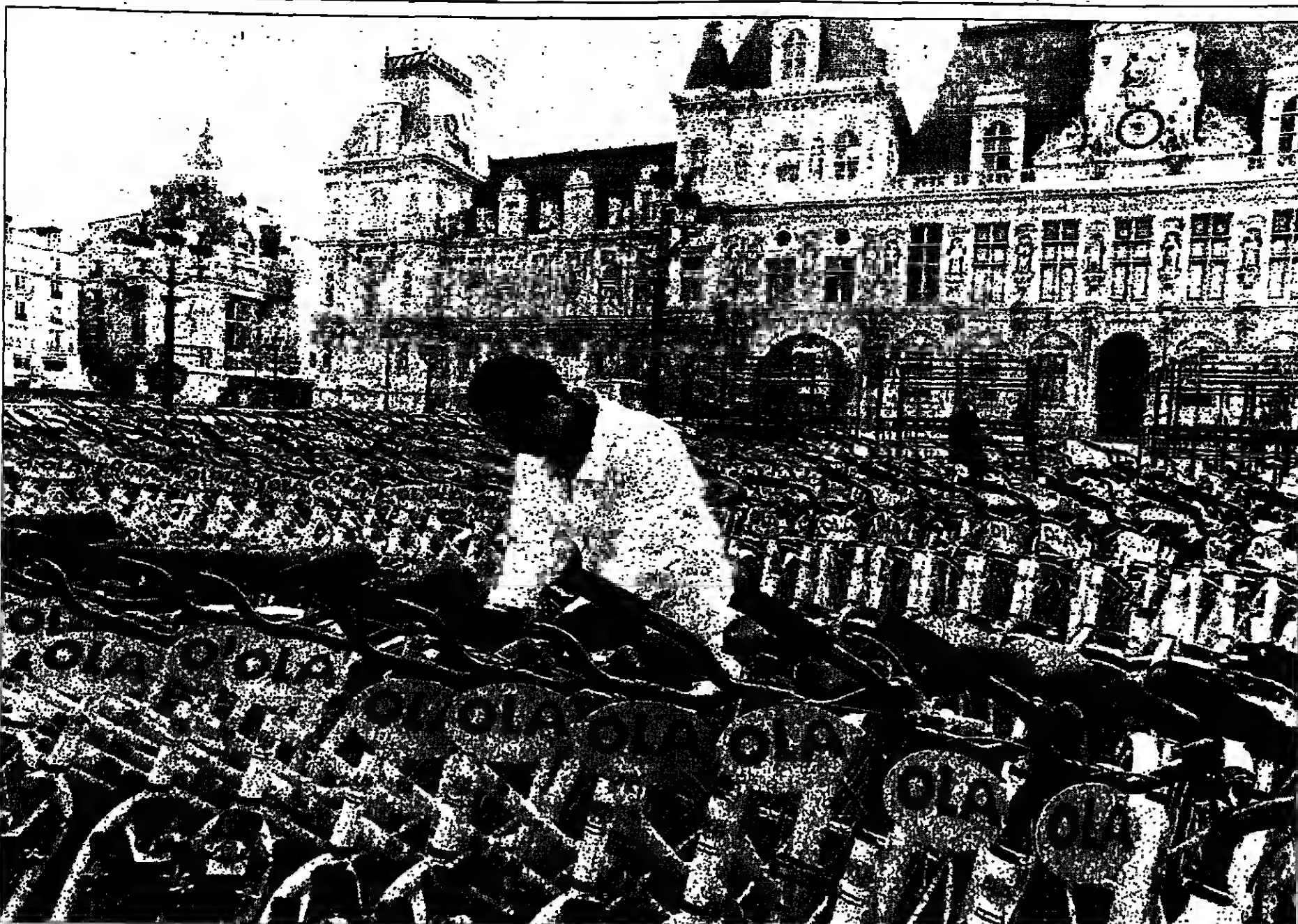
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مكتبة الأمل



Bicycles outside Paris town hall yesterday for use by motorists banned from some city centre areas. Thirty-seven towns and cities took up the one-day ban. PHOTOGRAPH BY JACK DASHGIAN

Car ban tests French love affair

Jon Henley in Paris on the day when a nation said au revoir, not goodbye, to their vehicles

THE normally fume-filled, traffic-choked Boulevard Saint Germain was transformed into an unlikely paradise for rollerbladers, cyclists and pedestrians yesterday as Parisian motorists surrendered with unexpected grace to France's first-ever No Cars in the City Day.

"It's absolute bliss," said Emille Hennen, sitting on the terrace outside the Brasserie Lipp with her after-lunch coffee. "To sit here without breathing in the exhaust or being deafened by the cars and those damn horns. Why can't they do this every day?"

While some decried the car ban scheme — floated last year by the Green party environment minister, Dominique Voynet — as a publicity stunt, it was taken up with varying degrees of enthusiasm by 37 towns and cities around the country from Nîmes to Dunkirk and Nantes in the west, to Mulhouse in the east.

Although largely symbolic in many cities, the *one day sans voiture* looked like a notable success. Strasbourg reported a threefold increase in the use of public transport, while traffic levels in Paris dropped by 20 per cent overall, despite its designated car-free streets — mainly in tourist areas such as the Marais, Montmartre and the Latin Quarter — amounting to just 35 miles of the city's 1,000 miles of tarmac.

To ease the frustrations of thwarted motorists, extra Metro trains were laid on and 800 bicycles were available outside the town hall, free for the day in exchange for car keys or a driving licence. The

ban to 7pm, reinforced by 1,000 policemen manning roadblocks, covered all private cars except those owned by local residents or powered by liquid gas.

"This is really a test," explained Ms Voynet, an outspoken opponent of what she called "the culture of *l'automobile*". The day should be seen as just an ordinary day, she said. "But in towns and cities that will be calmer and quieter, where thousands of people can rediscover the pleasure of walking and cycling. The aim is to show that everyone gains in quality of life. It is not a one-off thing — it has to be the beginning of the reclaiming of our cities."

France's Socialist-led government, which adopted her proposal with enthusiasm, now plans to make it an annual fixture.

The French are still deeply attached to their cars and most cities — with the exception of Strasbourg, which began reining in car use in the centre in 1992 — have

made little attempt to restrict traffic. Car numbers have doubled to some 25 million in the past two decades, while a survey published yesterday showed that although two-thirds of the population would like traffic-free city centres, 68 per cent use their cars to get to work.

According to one survey from Paris town hall, at any given moment 60 per cent of the capital's road surface is occupied by parked cars, 36 per cent by moving traffic and 5 per cent by buses. Perhaps unsurprisingly, 71 per cent of Parisians say they find traffic levels unbearable and pollution uncomfortable.

"We are approaching the point where we are suffocating our cities," the communist transport minister, Jean-Claude Gayssot, said yesterday. "We have an urgent choice to make about the space we reserve for the automobile, and we cannot escape that choice. We are already a long way behind some northern European countries."

Such words did not, of course, mean that everyone in France approved of yesterday's event. The mayors of several large cities, including Lyon, Lille and Bordeaux, had strong reservations and refused to take part in a No Car Day. "It's an expensive gimmick, a publicity stunt," said a Lyon town hall spokesman. "This day is ephemeral; it's not part of a concerted policy. It's utopian to think we can rid cities of cars, even dangerous for economic development."

On the streets of Paris, there were plenty of Gallic grumbles. "Of course this kind of thing is fine in principle, but it's making my day

hell," said an infuriated estate agent, Georges Balosin, who failed to talk his way past a roadblock on the rue Saint-Jacques. "I have appointments all over the city and I'm going to have to cancel half of them. Who's going to reimburse me for the loss of business?"

And France being France, there was a hiccup or two: train drivers chose yesterday to call a strike on one suburban line in Paris. "For God's sake," said Yann Puget, who runs a jeweller's shop near the Bastille. "Ban cars for the day by all means, but at least make sure we can get to work some other way."

way", linking part of the city with neighbouring Pasadena. Cyclists will have to pay a toll to use the Bikeway, but the project's backers believe riders will be willing to do so for the safety and speed the route will offer: cyclists will be able to travel faster than the cars on the Pasadena freeway.

Norway: The city council in Trondheim, was so keen to encourage drivers to switch to bicycles that they installed the world's first bicycle lift — similar to a ski lift — to help less-fit cyclists up the steep hill in the city centre.

Switzerland: A organisation called Mobility has 18,000 members sharing 300 vehicles nationwide. In Zurich a long-sighted investment programme has resulted in about 60 per cent of journeys being made by public transport. Trams and buses are given automatic priority at signals and junctions.

United States: In Los Angeles, a private company is building a "bicycle freeway" rush hours for one day a week — depending on the last digit of their number plate — and face fines if they ignore the ban.

Germany: Five years ago a group of planners in Bremen advertised for people interested in living in a car-free housing development of 210 flats and houses. A frequent bus service is provided, and the tram system is being extended to serve the development. Savings made by not building roads and car parking spaces were spent on gardens, a play space and kindergarten.

Brazil: Private motorists in Sao Paulo have been banned from using their cars during

the chain's management: they were not at all surprised. Management's explanation was simple: the most profitable stores are the busiest. It is much harder working in the most profitable stores, so the shelf stackers and the checkout operators are not as happy as those elsewhere.

Hypermarket staff might not be happy, but the customers are. Supermarket shoppers do not actually care very much about the way they are treated by the staff. What matters is whether the shelves are growing or gaping, and whether the price is right.

"The key message," Ms Sil-

Happy workers blur the profit margin

Roger Cowie

HAPPY workers do not make the most profit. That is the grim message from research at Warwick University which will give sadistic employers the excuse not to try and be nice to their staff.

It has become axiomatic that service businesses need to keep their customers happy, and that the best way to do that is to have happy staff serving them. A stream of entrepreneurs, mostly American, has peddled the service message, unconvincingly

succinctly in the 1970s by the Marriott hotel founder, J. Willard Marriott: "You can't make happy guests with unhappy employees."

Unhappily, it seems you can make more money with sad staff. Rhian Silvestro, a lecturer at Warwick business School, studied staff morale in a supermarket chain in the North-east. She found that the stores with the happiest employees were the least profitable.

Ms Silvestro was shocked by this challenge to conventional wisdom but even more surprised by the reaction of

the chain's management: they were not at all surprised. Management's explanation was simple: the most profitable stores are the busiest. It is much harder working in the most profitable stores, so the shelf stackers and the checkout operators are not as happy as those elsewhere.

Hypermarket staff might not be happy, but the customers are. Supermarket shoppers do not actually care very much about the way they are treated by the staff. What matters is whether the shelves are growing or gaping, and whether the price is right.

"The key message," Ms Sil-

City notebook, page 12

New jobs for BBC chiefs hint at Birt succession

Janine Gibson
Media Correspondent

TWO of the BBC's rising stars were yesterday banded the big jobs which put them in line to succeed Sir John Birt as director-general of the corporation.

Matthew Bannister, director of radio, who was once portrayed by the Sun sliding down a banister to depict the fall in Radio 1's ratings under his care, has been appointed to the third most powerful job in the BBC.

He will take on the post of chief executive, BBC Production — running the largest production centre in Europe — later this autumn. The appointment puts Mr Bannister in the BBC's triumvirate of power, alongside Sir John and Broadcast chief executive Will Wyatt.

One of Mr Bannister's rivals for the production job was the director of regional broadcasting, Mark Byford, who was yesterday appointed chief executive of the BBC's World Service.

At 41 and 40 respectively, Mr Bannister and Mr Byford are seen as the new generation of BBC executives who will lead the corporation in the post-Birt regime. Mr Bannister, whose background is in radio, achieved notoriety as the man behind Radio 1's new music policy and hit controversy over the revamp of Radio 4.

Although he admits he has never made a programme in his life, Mr Bannister is regarded as having the right strategic skills to run BBC Production.

Similarly, Mr Byford, who has overseen the reorganisation of the BBC's regional centres, is perceived as able to drive through reform of the World Service, taking over from Sam Younger, who announced yesterday he was leaving after 20 years to pursue other interests.

Controversy has surrounded recent attempts to modernise the Foreign Office-funded World Service. Its loyal listeners have been outraged at suggestions that it needs to lose its stuffy image.

Sir John hinted at his expectations of the new broom at the World Service yesterday.



Matthew Bannister, left, and Mark Byford

day, saying: "Mark Byford's outstanding achievement in leading a transformation in the BBC's programme-making and journalism across the whole of Britain make him uniquely well placed to lead the World Service."

BBC chairman Sir Christopher Bland said of the appointments: "As we build the BBC management team for the millennium, it is encouraging that we are able to call on such outstanding young talent from within the organisation."

The meteoric rise of both Mr Byford and Mr Bannister not only puts them in the top tier of management, but also leaves the way open for another Birt favourite, BBC News chief executive Tony Hall, to take over from Mr Wyatt at BBC Broadcast when he retires next year.

BBC director of policy and planning, Patricia Hodgson, is now the only senior woman in with a chance in the succession race after director of production Jana Bennett, who was in line for Mr Bannister's new job, withdrew last week.

The other main candidates to replace Sir John, when he stands down in March 2001, are from outside the BBC. Channel 4 chief executive Michael Jackson is favoured with Pearson Television chief executive Greg Dyke a much-tipped long-shot.

A more pressing vacancy is Mr Bannister's current role, overseeing the BBC's five national radio networks, which will be advertised at a crucial time for the stations. Radio 4, which is still undergoing changes, may lose its controller as James Boyle is tipped to take on the job, at least temporarily. From outside the BBC, the former head of network strategy for BBC Radio, Paul Robinson, may return from his job at Talk Radio.

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The manner of her death from heart failure and her relatively young age have only further fuelled the rumours that it was the use of steroids and not grit and determination that transformed her from a good athlete into a world beater. Did Flo-Jo pay the ultimate price?

G2 cover story

The Clinton crisis

Starr was 'grossly unfair in presenting a one sided account. This is a grievous wrong to the president' **White House press spokesman Mike McCurry**

How Starr played with loaded dice

DIRTY TRICKS: Transcripts show counsel cut out evidence helpful to president and bullied intern, reports **Martin Kettle**



President Clinton shares a joke with the Japanese prime minister Keizo Obuchi during a meeting at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: DOUG MILLER

KENNETH Starr deliberately tailored his charges against Bill Clinton to eliminate evidence which put the president in a good light and his interrogators intimidated Monica Lewinsky with strong-arm methods as they took statements from her, according to the evidence released by Congress on Monday.

While the president's testimony proved to be less damaging than the advance leaks suggested, close scrutiny of Ms Lewinsky's testimony before the grand jury reveals numerous passages which explode the notion that the special prosecutor acted fairly.

Ms Lewinsky told the grand jury that her treatment by Mr Starr's investigators in January was "incredibly frightening". When they confronted

her in a Virginia hotel where she had been taped without her knowledge by Linda Tripp, Mr Starr's team told Ms Lewinsky not to call a lawyer. When she asked to call her mother, Mr Starr's deputy Jackie Bennett — one of the team who questioned Mr Clinton in the videotape released this week — said: "You're 24. You're smart, you're old enough, you don't need to call your mommy."

Asked by a grand juror if she felt that Mr Starr's team had set a trap for her, Ms Lewinsky said this "had all been a set-up". She said she felt threatened, and it was "just so frightening".

Mr Starr's methods and the exclusion of evidence favourable to Mr Clinton are not illegal. The statute under which he operates provides him with a wide latitude in drawing up his report and he

was not obliged to highlight material favourable to Mr Clinton, even though he had to provide it in the supporting record. However, the exposure of Mr Starr's techniques has cast doubt on the procedure for any impeachment.

Members of Congress can no longer draw their conclusions about impeachment on the basis of the report alone, since Mr Clinton is entitled to "due process".

The single most striking instance of the report's intentional bias against Mr Clinton comes during the session on August 20, when Mr Starr recalled Ms Lewinsky to the grand jury to get her to contradict Mr Clinton's August 17 evidence from the White House. A juror asked Ms Lewinsky: "Monica, is there anything that you would like to add to your prior testimony, either today or prior to

the last time you were here, or anything that you think needs to be clarified? I just want to give you the fullest opportunity."

Ms Lewinsky replied: "I would just like to say that no one ever asked me to lie and I was never promised a job for my silence... And that I'm sorry. I'm really sorry for everything that's happened. And I hate Linda Tripp."

None of this exchange appears in the Starr Report. Nor is there a record in the report of Mr Clinton's own denials on August 17. He said he did not ask her to lie when allegations of their affair were first raised, nor did he try to buy her silence.

Mr Starr's report suggests that the president urged his friend Vernon Jordan to get Ms Lewinsky a job. But the transcript of the grand jury records her making clear that

it was she or Linda Tripp, not Mr Clinton, who suggested that Mr Jordan might help her to get a job.

"What I don't remember was if it was my idea or Linda's idea. And I know that it came up in discussions with her. I believe before I discussed it with the president — I didn't suggest, I asked the president if Mr Jordan might be able to assist me."

Mr Starr's sixth proposed count of impeachment against Mr Clinton is that he and Ms Lewinsky "had an understanding that they would lie under oath in the Jones case about their relationship", while the seventh count alleges "President Clinton endeavoured to obstruct justice by helping Ms Lewinsky obtain a job in New York at a time when she would have been a witness

against him were she to tell the truth in the Jones case".

Rather than quote Ms Lewinsky's denials, Mr Starr's report says: "Ms Lewinsky has stated that the President never explicitly told her to lie. Instead, as she explained, they both understood... they would continue their pattern of covering up and lying."

Another part of Ms Lewinsky's testimony that could help Mr Clinton and yet is not in the report is the remark that she had told Ms Tripp, one of Mr Starr's principal witnesses, "a whole bunch of lies". Among these lies, Ms Lewinsky told the grand jury, was one in which she told Ms Tripp that she would not sign an affidavit denying a sexual relationship with Mr Clinton until Mr Jordan had found her a job.

Ms Tripp's evidence to the grand jury has not yet been released.

In Mr Clinton's testimony of August 17, there are several passages of evidence which are much more favourable to the president's defence than the Starr report implied or reported.

In particular, Mr Clinton gave much more evidence about the nature of his relationship with Ms Lewinsky, saying she was "basically a good girl" and saying "it breaks my heart that she was ever involved with this". He also said he could have given her a job in the White House if he had wanted to buy her silence on their affair, but he did not. Instead he wanted "to help her get on with her life. It was a simple as that".

In the only section of testimony in which he duelled with Mr Starr rather than one

of the deputy independent counsels, Mr Clinton also explicitly denied that he directed any of the various privilege claims which Mr Starr's report uses as the basis for his eleventh impeachment charge — that Mr Clinton's actions "have been inconsistent with the President's constitutional duty to faithfully execute the laws".

Those denials do not figure in the report, which prefers to charge that Mr Clinton "repeatedly and unlawfully invoked the executive privilege to conceal evidence of his personal misconduct".

"Judge Starr saw the report as a charging document", Professor Jonathan Turley of Georgetown University said yesterday. "The function of the report as he saw it was to present the basis for the case against the president, not to present the case for him."

To Handsome — from Monica with love

THE LETTERS: Intern shown as confused and vulnerable after being spurned by the president. **Mark Tran reports**

MONICA Lewinsky poured out her heart to President Clinton in a series of increasingly desperate letters towards the end of their intermittent 18-month relationship, culminating in a poignant letter appealing for his friendship because she felt she had nobody to talk to.

Ms Lewinsky emerges as a forlorn figure, by turns adoring, angry, frightened and finally resigned to the end of their relationship. When she realised that there was an unrequited love, Ms Lewinsky sought out the president as a friend, who could help her get a job.

Despite the thousands of words written about the former White House intern, Ms Lewinsky has yet to speak publicly about her relationship with Mr Clinton. Her testimony and letters provide the most complete picture of her yet.

She may be reviled for having gone into embarrassing detail on her sexual encounter

with Mr Clinton, but a certain winning charm emerges from the latest material. The very nakedness of her testimony on her own state of mind probably accounts for the sympathy she elicits from the grand jurors, mostly female and middle-aged African-Americans.

One juror asked her why she kept going out with married men even before meeting Mr Clinton. "I can't figure out why you keep going after things that you don't want, that aren't obtainable."

"It's something I need to work on," Ms Lewinsky conceded. "I never expected to fall in love with the president."

On another occasion, a juror inquired of Ms Lewinsky, who asked that she be called by her first name — "Was it love or a sexual obsession?" Ms Lewinsky responded: "More love, with a little bit of obsession."

The relationship began in November, 1995, during the government shutdown in a budget stand-off between the Republican Congress and the

Dear Mr P... 2 March 1997
I must admit it... I am a compulsive shopper. I saw this tie and thought it would look fabulous on you. I hope you like it.
All of my life, everyone has always said that I am a difficult person for whom to shop. And yet, you managed to choose the absolutely perfect presents! A little phrase (with only eight letters) like "thank you" simply cannot begin to express what I feel for what you have given me. Love & poetry are gifts to my soul.
I just love the hat pin. It is vibrant, unique, and a beautiful piece of art. My only hope is that I have a hat. At home I look like I see another excuse to go shopping! I know that I am bound to receive compliments on it.

A letter from Monica Lewinsky to President Clinton dated March 2 1997, in which she thanks him for his friendship

White House. They had their final sexual encounter on March 29 1997, when the president was on crutches from an injury in Florida at golfer Greg Norman's home.

After that, Ms Lewinsky's letters take on an increasingly anxious, pleading and hurt tone, not only because she has been spurned by Mr Clinton, but also because of

I have only read excerpts from "Leaves of Grass" before - never in its entirety in such a beautifully bound edition. Like Shakespeare, Whitman's writings are so timeless. I find solace in words from the past that remain profound and somehow always poignant. Whitman is so rich. That one must read him like one tastes a fine wine or good cigar - take it in, roll it in your mouth, and savor it!
I hope you know how very grateful I am for these gifts, especially your gift of friendship. I will treasure them all... always.
Monica

been two months since we last spoke. Please do not do this to me. I feel disposable, used and insignificant. I understand your hands are tied, but I want to talk to you and look at some options. I am begging you one last time to please let me visit briefly Tuesday evening."

In a letter dated October 6 1997, Ms Lewinsky has given up hope of returning to the White House, but asks Mr Clinton for help in getting a job in New York.

"While I understand that it is not possible for me to return, it is time for me to leave and I need your help. I'd like to ask you to help me secure a position in NY beginning December 1. I would be very grateful, and I am hoping this is a solution for both of us. I want you to know that it has always been and remains more important to me to have you in my life than to come back. Handsome, you have been distant the past few months and have shut me out. I don't know why. Is it that you don't like me any more or are you scared?"

On November 12 1997, in a letter addressed to Handsome, Ms Lewinsky conveys the sense of the world collapsing around her. She is almost hysterical. "I am begging you to please be nice to me and understanding until I

leave. This is so hard for me. I am trying to deal with so much emotionally, and I have nobody to talk about. I need you right now not as president, but as a man. PLEASE be my friend."

Another heartfelt passage is a tape transcript, undated, with the description of Ms Lewinsky sniffing and crying.

"I was so sad seeing you last night. I was so angry with you that once again you had rejected me. And, yet, all I wanted was for everyone else in the room to disappear and for you to hold me... I just wanted to feel the warmth of you and the smell of you and the touch of you. And it made me sad. You confuse me so much. I mean I, (sigh) I thought I — I thought I fell in love with this person that — that I really felt was such a good — such a good person, such a good heart, someone who's had a life with a lot of experiences, that has — oh."

During their relationship, Ms Lewinsky gave Mr Clinton gifts, including several ties, a plastic pocket frog, a wooden letter opener with a frog on the handle, a penny medallion with a heart cut out, a Harrod's mug and a copy of Ozy Vey, a book of Jewish jokes. He gave her 13 presents including a small box of cherry chocolates and a London plan.

Starr hints that he may have several more tricks up his sleeve

THE EVIDENCE: Two grand juries are still sitting and the inquiry into land deals and travel goes on. **Martin Kettle reports**

THE Starr report has been public for 12 days, and more than 3,000 pages of further material, including the Bill Clinton videotape, were lobbed into the public arena on Monday. Decisions about 17 boxes of

other material collected by the Office of the Independent Counsel, aka the Starr inquiry, have yet to be taken on Capitol Hill.

A second grand jury in Arlington, Virginia, is still sitting too, though neither is

thought to have heard any new witnesses in the past two weeks. Mr Starr has hinted that he may have several more moves up his sleeve, arising from every aspect of his four-year investigation, not merely the Lewinsky case that has been its principal focus for eight months.

The Starr inquiry's continuing work is not a secret. It is set out in a little read part of the Starr report of September 9 headed Current Status of the Investigation. It says that the inquiry on such sub-

jects as the Whitewater land deals, the White House travel office, and the possible misuse of FBI files is continuing.

In addition, Mr Starr is investigating "events arising from the Lewinsky matter", including possible perjury and obstruction of justice relating to Mr Clinton's encounters with the White House volunteer Kathleen Willey, and the possible misuse of Pentagon personnel records relating to Ms Lewinsky's friend Linda Tripp.

"All phases of the investigation are now nearing completion," the report stated. "This office will soon make final decisions about what steps to take, if any, with respect to the other information it has gathered. Those decisions will be made at the earliest practical time, consistent with our statutory and ethical obligations."

Whether this is more than bluster is one of the key questions facing Mr Clinton, his lawyers and his strategists. Rumours of further moves by

Mr Starr have included possible criminal indictments against important players in the Lewinsky case, including the president's close friend Vernon Jordan and his long-time legal adviser Bruce Lindsey.

Although it may seem far-fetched, it is not impossible that Mr Starr may even try to charge some of Mr Clinton's friends and business partners with a conspiracy to obstruct justice arising from their repeated attempts to invoke various

new forms of executive privilege.

Mr Clinton's traditional foes are pinning their hopes on the fact that Mr Starr has not closed down any aspect of his long inquiry into Whitewater and the other pre-Lewinsky allegations. His latest attempt to prosecute Susan McDougal — a long-standing Arkansas friend and business partner of Bill and Hillary Clinton — for refusing to testify is due to come back to court later this autumn.

There is also a possibility of renewed charges against the Clinton family's friend and former legal partner Webster Hubbell. And, in the Clintonophobes' most thrilling dream of all, Mr Starr has not yet formally ruled out the possibility of bringing conspiracy charges against Hillary Clinton. In addition to these criminal charges, it remains highly possible that the independent counsel will publish a second Starr Report within a matter of weeks.

Handwritten signature: "J. P. [unclear]"

Cost of beach huts hits the roof as more like to be beside seaside

Beach huts at Southwold, which can fetch £15,000
PHOTOGRAPH: GEOFF ROBINSON



REAL estate booms can flourish in the most unlikely of locations and in the most unlikely forms, writes *Burhan Wazir*.
In the tiny Victorian seaside town of Southwold, Suffolk, consumer demand for the traditional British beach hut is pushing prices through the roof, say local estate agents. A view of the North Sea can now cost up to £15,000 a time. You get a 12ft by 8ft wooden hut, sparsely decorated, with no running water.
Southwold's finest beach huts, situated in an area known locally as Millionaire's Row, are creating the greatest interest. Even at the exorbitant prices, estate agents have found demand to far outstrip supply.
No wanted posters have gone up around town in an effort to persuade owners to sell.
The smallest properties at the northern end of the resort sell at an average of £6,000, while those in the central eastern beach can command up to £10,000. But it is the beach huts on the Constitution and Gun Hill areas that are being snapped up for £15,000 each.
Estate agents H A Adams have 50 people on their waiting list — some as far away as London and most of whom have been waiting for the past five years.
Southwold's beach huts are all privately owned.

Prison inspector condemns 'disgraceful' institution

Teenage offenders confined in pairs in cells built for one which are little more than lavatories

Alan Travis
Home Affairs Editor

CONDITIONS in a young offender institution in which 122 children are kept two to a cell in cells designed

for one, have been condemned by the Chief Inspector of Prisons as not only unsuitable but disgraceful.
Sir David Ramsbotham says the teenage offenders held at the Werrington YO1 at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, had to eat their food in their

cells, which were little more than lavatories.
The report published today by the chief inspector of his visit to Werrington in June is one of the most scathing he has issued since taking over the job from Sir Stephen Pym.

"I have not come across such totally deliberate and unnecessary impoverishment of children anywhere, and suspect that were Werrington to be a social services secure custody unit, it would be closed for lack of provision of appropriate facilities," writes Sir David in his preface.

Cell suppers and rationed socks

Life for a teenage inmate on Werrington YO1, Stoke-on-Trent:
6pm: Arrive at Werrington. Processed at reception and offered phone call. Placed in single cell with older inmate. No officer speaks to him.
7pm: Appalling shouts and threats at him from other inmates through window as "initiation ceremony". Lights out.
Unkempt dress in prison boxer shorts, T-shirt, jeans and ill-fitting shoes; only one pair of socks and underwear per week.
7.50pm: Collect breakfast and return to shared cell built for single inmate.
Morning: Induction interview by prison officer. For a few, work

only available 11 hours a week.
Sports hall with no toilets, showers or offices for staff.
Appalling reception arrangements with children arriving late at night subject to a torrent of abuse from other juveniles.
Totally unsuitable building used for punishment should be bulldozed.
Sir David said while he was critical of what he found at Werrington it was not directed at the governor or his staff but "at those who allowed it to happen".
The director general of the Prison Service, Richard Tilt, last night said he had recently visited Werrington and realised its need for substantial improvements.

11.45am: Lunch of pies, burgers and sausages every day, including leftover food.
Afternoon: Compulsory PE for three hours a week in sports hall without showers or toilets.
Scantily-clad young prisoners escorted several hundred yards outdoors to antiquated showers.
4.30pm: Dinner served from heated trolleys in the cells.
Evening: One-and-a-half hour's association, two evenings a week spent on landings outside cell without even a chair to sit on.

Dirty tricks by Labour 'damaged candidate'

David Hencke
Westminster Correspondent

TERRY MARSH, the former boxer, appears to have been the victim of a Labour "dirty tricks" leak while a Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidate and should receive compensation, an official inquiry has found.
The boxer, who was standing for the then Tory marginal of Basildon in Essex in 1997, quit after he was charged with obtaining nearly £10,000 in student grants by deception from the London borough of Tower Hamlets. He was acquitted last year by a jury at Southwark crown court after 12 minutes of deliberation.
Before he had been questioned by police, details of alleged discrepancies in his grant application to the University of East London were passed to the Mirror newspaper and the East London Advertiser.
He was accused of not disclosing that he had already received one grant from Essex county council, which would have disqualified him from obtaining another. But the jury decided that the

council had not made this clear in the application form, and cleared him.
An internal inquiry by Tower Hamlets council has traced the leak to Julia Mainwaring, the Labour leader of the authority, whose daughter, Anna, works for the East London Advertiser.
According to the inquiry, details of Mr Marsh's application were circulated to very few people. The report exonerated council officials, concluding that "there is no evidence of any deliberate act or negligent omission on the part of any employee of this local authority which caused or contributed to the Daily Mirror obtaining a copy of this memo".
Only one councillor received copies of the documents involving Mr Marsh, the report says: "The only person who was provided with the copy of the documents which were subsequently leaked was Councillor Mainwaring."
"In all of the circumstances I would conclude, if pressed, that Councillor Mainwaring was responsible for the breach of confidentiality."
The internal review con-



Former Lib Dem candidate Terry Marsh:

PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GOWMAN

cluded that the consequences of the breach of confidentiality was serious for Mr Marsh, and he was entitled to claim compensation from the council. Mr Marsh, whose case is being investigated by the local government ombudsman, said yesterday that he was pleased at the report's findings. "I am interested in large sums in compensation. What I am keen to prove is that I was a

victim of a Labour plot." At the time of the disclosure, Labour was desperate to win Basildon for symbolic reasons — in 1992 it was the key result which ensured John Major won the election. Mr Marsh, a former world champion, was seen as a well-known working class candidate, with the advantage of being born in Basildon. He had retired from boxing after being diagnosed

epileptic.
In the event Labour won the seat with a majority of 13,289, the Liberal Democrats, who had substituted a university lecturer, came a poor third.
Tower Hamlets said yesterday that it would not comment on the report's findings. He added that the council was co-operating with the ombudsman's inquiry.

Viagra sold by private clinics for £15 a tablet

GPs left in state of uncertainty over restriction on prescribing

Sarah Boswell
Health Correspondent

THE first Viagra impotence pills are already on sale for those who can afford it at walk-in private GP clinics in London, Birmingham, Dudley and Gateshead, it was revealed yesterday.
They cost £15 a tablet following a consultation for which £120 is charged.
The Medicentres which have sprung up at railway stations, such as Victoria, Euston and Waterloo in London, and in shopping centres elsewhere, claim their prices are lower than most other private clinics will charge. But they put the cost of twice-a-week sex at £1,440 a year.
The consultation to rule out diabetes and heart conditions, which included a blood test, was a one-off, said a Medicentre spokeswoman,

and it did not have to be repeated for further prescriptions.
As customers began making their way to the private clinics, GPs around the country were still uncertain how to deal with patients suffering from impotence.
Although the Department of Health has asked doctors not to prescribe Viagra on the National Health Service for the time being, the drug has not been blacklisted, which would make its prescription illegal. Blacklisting cannot take place while the House of Commons is in recess.
So it is still technically within GPs' power to write an NHS prescription for Viagra, and indeed, they have been told they may do so "in exceptional circumstances" — which have not been defined.
Furthermore, there may be family doctors who would feel bound by their terms

and conditions of service to do so. Their contract speaks of "a duty to dispense or refer" according to patient need.
This puts GPs in a difficult position. Most will probably accede to the Health Secretary's request and refer the patient to a GP at a different practice, who will see them privately. That will probably cost between £20 and £100, depending on the GP and the length of the consultation. There may be a further fee of around £7.50 for writing out a prescription.
At the pharmacy, Viagra tablets will cost at least 22p each, and there may be a dispensing fee on top.
Should any GPs feel strongly that their patient ought to have Viagra and cannot afford to go privately, they may decide to prescribe it on the NHS anyway.
According to a poll of 100 family doctors conducted for BBC Radio 4 yesterday, three out of four GPs thought Viagra should be available on the NHS, although many felt it should be rationed to those who most needed it.

Wheelchair robbery victim takes Cork city for a ride

John Mullen
Ireland Correspondent

AS TALES go, it brought a tear to a glass eye, a paralytic tourist from England was mugged in broad daylight in Ireland's second city. His assailants made off with £1,000 in his rucksack. They even tipped over his wheelchair, and the victim had to spend two nights in hospital.
The tale dominated 95 FM, Cork's radio station, all last week after the Cork Victim Support Group pleaded for help.
More than £1,500 came in, and Gary Lair, aged 57, from Cheshire, was invited on to the station's phone-in show to say thanks.
It was then the alarm bells began chiming. Martin Mullen, the show's producer, found Mr Lair was scruffy, and he cracked bad taste jokes about people in wheelchairs.
After a free taxi ride to the bank to change the cheques he had picked up at 96FM for cash, the next

stop was Debbie's barber's shop where Tina Crowley, aged 29, had pledged a complimentary haircut. She said: "Right away I knew he was a conman. He was so arrogant. He took out the £1,500, counted it in front of me, and stuffed it down his sock. I asked him whether he had any feelings in his legs, and he said he could feel £1,500 anywhere."
At Tony Fine Clothing, where he had been promised two new outfits, the Gardaí were waiting.
Their suspicions had been aroused when not one witness came forward to support Mr Lair's story he had been attacked. Officers studied video footage of the street where the attack was supposed to have happened. There was no mugging.
Mr Lair was persuaded to hand back the cash, and given a ticket to England.
Mr Mullen said: "Some people think that if anyone ever gets mugged here again, they will get short shrift. But I hope we would try and do the same again, maybe with a little more investigation, though."

News in brief

Inquiry into navy 'bullies'

THE Royal Navy has launched an investigation into allegations of bullying of its youngest sailor at sea by older shipmates, it was disclosed yesterday.
It is understood that David Allen, who joined the destroyer HMS Cardiff at 16, has been flown back to his home in Havant, Hampshire, and is planning to quit the navy.
A number of more senior crew members face disciplinary action if his claims that he was beaten and verbally abused are upheld by officers from the navy's Special Investigation Branch.

Five killed in road crash

FOUR adults and a baby were killed yesterday in a crash involving a car and an articulated lorry. The accident happened on the East Calder bypass west of Edinburgh.
The victims, who were thought to have been travelling in a Peugeot car, were three men, a woman and the baby. Lethal and Borders ambulance service said. The lorry driver was in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary suffering from leg injuries, a spokesman added.
Lethal and Borders fire brigade said hydraulic lifting equipment was used to get to some of the victims.

Tobacco ban challenge

BRITAIN's leading tobacco companies are taking legal action, in a bid to get the European Court of Justice to rule that a European directive to ban all tobacco advertising and sponsorship by 2005 is illegal.
They claim that if the EU is forced to back down, the Government will not be able to introduce UK legislation to achieve the same goal.
David Swan, chief executive of the Tobacco Manufacturers Association, said the EU was seeking to use legal powers for harmonising of trade to introduce a public health measure. — *Nicholas Barnister*

Chinook plea rejected

THE Ministry of Defence yesterday dismissed a call for a new examination of the causes of the June 1994 Chinook helicopter crash on the Mull of Kintyre. Twenty-nine people died when the helicopter, en route to a military counter-terrorism exercise to a conference in Inverness, crashed in thick fog.
A dossier of evidence submitted by the Tory defence spokesman, Robert Key, called for a re-examination of the outcome of the official inquiry, which found the crash was caused by the gross negligence of the two pilots, Flight Lieutenants Jonathan Tapper and Rick Cook.
But the armed forces minister, Doug Henderson, yesterday said no new evidence had emerged to suggest technical problems played any part in the crash. He said the dossier had been reviewed "extremely carefully".

Mental Act protests

THE Government yesterday launched a review of the Mental Health Act, but triggered protests that it was pre-empting the exercise by calling for compulsory treatment, writes *David Brindle*.
Paul Boateng, junior minister for mental health, announced that the root-and-branch review would be led by Geneva Richardson, professor of public law at Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London.
He said that "the law must make it clear that non-compliance with agreed treatment programmes is not an option".
Mind, the mental health charity, accused the minister of "jumping the gun".

'Holiday rage' grows

A CUSTOMER hurled a computer out of a travel agency window when he heard the price of his trip had gone up by £7, it was claimed yesterday.
The alleged incident is part of a wave of "holiday rage", said Travel News. Complaints by holiday customers were up by 25 per cent in the past year, it said, and many were "aggressive and unreasonable".

its sleeve



There are plenty of goods in the Moscow market but no money to buy them — a fact that has wrecked Russia's unofficial trade with Turkey

PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEY MAMONTOV

Turks suffer as suitcase traders pack it in

Russia's woes have wiped out the cash-and-carry importers, reports **Chris Morris**

BOOM has turned to doom for the traders of Laleli, the Istanbul suburb at the centre of the once-thriving "suitcase trade" with the former Soviet Union.

The Russians have coveted this city since the time of the tsars. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 they invaded. Hundreds of thousands of eager entrepreneurs, many of them women, arrived by ferry and chartered plane. In bags, boxes and bulging suitcases they took all they could carry to the vast new consumer market back home.

A couple of years ago the suitcase trade was worth more than \$5 billion. Loosely taxed and lightly regulated, it

brought garments and household materials from Laleli to every corner of the former Soviet empire.

"You couldn't park your car around here, and you could hardly walk down the street," said Osman Yesilkaya at his family's leather clothing shop. "Now look at it. Every day is another Sunday morning."

Stocks are piling up, and showrooms are deserted. Traders on street corners say they are losing thousands of pounds every month. "We are producing a lot but we're not selling enough to survive," said Can Ipekli. "We're all watching and waiting. But we're suffering a lot."

Women from Russia and

Ukraine, who often work here illegally, have been laid off by shops which no longer need their language skills. Many are reduced to hawking fur coats on the pavement. Some turn to Laleli's other main trade, prostitution.

One or two businessmen on the district's main street are optimistic that the Russians will return in large numbers, but they face an uphill struggle.

Laleli's fortunes began to decline before the current turmoil in Russia. Success bred a degree of complacency. The quality of goods began to deteriorate, allowing aggressive competition from Asian countries, where prices were often cheaper, to make significant headway.

The Russian authorities have been clamping down on the suitcase trade to encourage local manufacturers. There are now much tougher limits on duty-free imports

School pay is spirited away

TEACHERS in central Russia will be paid in vodka because the government's coffers are empty, the Star-Tass news agency reported yesterday.

The 8,000 teachers in the Altai republic will get 15 bottles of vodka each while local leaders press the federal government to pay its debts.

Previous attempts to pay part of the teacher's six month's wage arrears with

toilet paper and funeral accessories were rejected.

The federal government promised Altai 40 million rubles (\$1.5 million) for the teachers in August, but the money has not appeared.

About 75 per cent of Altai's budget comes from the federal treasury, which is months behind in paying workers and pensioners.

Its debts amount to some 36 billion rubles. — AP.

that bilateral trade has a healthy future. "The suitcase trade has a problem but it will continue," said Isin Cetebl, the Turkish minister in charge of foreign trade. "Our economy is very dynamic and very adaptable, and we will get through this crisis without experiencing great damage."

Official trade will also suffer, but the Turkish government says it will not lose as much as many countries in Europe. The main concern is that projects which have begun, especially in the construction sector, are paid for.

Nearly every shop window in Laleli still has a sign in the Russian Cyrillic script advertising its wares. But a new language has appeared, the language of economic hardship. "For Rent" signs are posted in empty shops. There could be more to come, unless Laleli's traders reinvent themselves once again.

Killer TB threat to world

James Meek in Moscow

A DEADLY man-made infection is pouring on to the streets of Russia from feld prisons, say aid agencies and health experts.

It is a mutant form of tuberculosis called multi-drug resistant TB — MDR-TB — produced when the treatment of an ordinary TB sufferer is interrupted or reduced.

Russian jails are thought to have up to 20,000 inmates with MDR-TB.

Tina Demeulenaere, of Médecins sans Frontières' Moscow office, said: "Sub-standard treatment and non-isolation of TB patients means the prison system is turning out MDR-TB patients like biscuits."

"It is a time bomb, because they are being freed, they infect other people, these people travel. It'll be all over the world before you know it."

Ordinary TB can be cured in Russia in six to eight months for less than £65, using a World Health Organisation system called Dots.

MDR-TB takes 18 months and thousands of pounds to treat and there is only a 50-55 per cent survival chance.

A joint appeal for funds by MSF, the British aid agency Merlin and the United States Public Health Research Institute warned: "It is only a matter of time before MDR-TB of Russian origin becomes a daily reality worldwide."

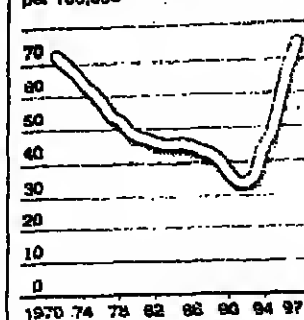
More than £162 million is thought to be needed to tackle the crisis — £65 million to extend Dots across the whole country and £97 million to treat existing MDR-TB cases.

"If this money is not spent soon, the cost of the epidemic to the world will be counted in millions, and may become unmanageable," said Alex Goldfarb, director of the Russian TB Project, funded by George Soros.

Active TB cases were in steady decline in Russia before the end of the Soviet Union, thanks to a network of specialist TB clinics. With the collapse of communism, and the massive shift of resources away from welfare, active cases are increasing by 10 per cent a year.

Tuberculosis

Rate of full-blown cases in Russia, per 100,000



The overcrowded jails — roughly 1 per cent of the population is in prison — have effectively become tuberculosis farms. The disease is nurtured by sick prisoners mingling with healthy ones, then turned into MDR-TB by prison pharmacies without secure supplies of the four basic drugs which TB patients must take.

Typical prisons get only 20 per cent of the funds they need. Even the few prisons where the aid agencies operate are grim places, like the MSF-supported prison TB hospital in Kemerovo in Siberia, designed to accommodate 750, but actually housing 1,800.

A 20-year-old Belgian administrator working for MSF in Kemerovo returned home recently after becoming infected with TB.

When prisoners are freed, they go back to the community, ill or not, and can easily fall outside the health net.

In Moscow, many end up at the MSF's mobile clinic for the homeless, a converted bus near Kazan station.

Dr Oleg Zetelkalo, an MSF doctor, said: "Most of the people who come to us have TB, and many have been released from prison knowing they have it. We're here for them, but if they're released in Saratov or Volgograd where they are going to get TB, it is comparable to AIDS. TB has a tendency to spread. We're in the early stages of an epidemic."

"It's moving up the social scale to the middle classes and it's not going to stop at the borders of Russia."

Tajikistan Islamist leader killed

Nick Holdsworth and agencies in Dushanbe

A LEADING figure in Tajikistan's Islamist opposition was killed by unknown gunmen yesterday.

Osakhon Latifi, a member of the national reconciliation commission (NRC) set up last year to bring the opposition into government, was ambushed outside his flat in the capital, Dushanbe.

Latifi, aged 62, a journalist and a Soviet-era correspondent of the Communist Par-

ty's Pravda daily in Tajikistan, headed an NRC body on legal issues. The NRC was set up last year to monitor the peace process in the Central Asian state.

The NRC was set up shortly after the Moscow-backed government and the United Tajik Opposition (UTO) signed a peace agreement ending years of civil war in which tens of thousands of people were killed.

The government said Latifi's murder was aimed at disrupting Tajikistan's fragile peace process.

Latifi was a deputy prime minister in the national reconciliation government which lasted only a few months before the civil war began in 1992.

He was a close aide of the deputy opposition leader, Akbar Turdakhonzoda, who was appointed first deputy prime minister in the coalition government this year.

Despite the peace accord, Tajikistan has remained restive. As recently as April pitched battles were fought between government troops and radical militia and mo-

bedin groups in the hills above Dushanbe.

Bordering five countries in the Hindu Kush mountains, including Afghanistan and China, Tajikistan is among the world's poorest countries, and the unrest has kept its economy from developing.

Sultan Khramdov, the NRC spokesman, said progress was slow. The division of political spoils, and the repatriation of opposition fighters who fled to Afghanistan at the end of the war — which should have been completed in December — had barely begun.

Kosovo's Albanian refugees find cold comfort in Bosnian capital

They came for a haven but now are desperate to leave, writes **Peter Finn**

HOLDING her two-month-old daughter up in her arms, Dzvel Minusi cried that her child had only spoilt milk to drink. "If we wanted to die of hunger, we would have stayed in Kosovo," said Ms Minusi, aged 39, who fled the Serbian province three weeks ago with four of her five children. "We came here to save our children, but they are hungry."

Dozens of angry men and women crowded round as she talked. "The animals live better than this," she shouted one.

Despite parallels between the plight of the Kosovo Albanians and the recent history of Bosnian Muslims, these latest refugees from Serbian forces have found a cold reception in the Bosnian capital.

"They intend to make a ghetto of Sarajevo," said Beriz Belkic, minister for refugees for Sarajevo, in an interview with a local newspaper. "If the arrival of Albanians continues, Sarajevo will not be a city but a peasant village."

The offices of the High Representative — the West's chief civilian official in Bosnia — and the United Nations High



A Kosovan mother dries her child's shoes in a Sarajevo centre

Commissioner for Refugees in the city have rebuked the Bosnian authorities for their indifference. Bosnian officials reply that their own refugee problems after the 3½-year Bosnian war are still too severe to cope with more displaced people.

"Bosnia has 800,000 refugees abroad, and within the country there are around 1.5 million displaced persons," said Nudzelin Recica, a deputy minister for refugees. "I wish Bosnia was a state like Sweden or Germany, but unfortunately it is not."

Bosnian officials said this week that the arrival of the Kosovo Albanians was jeopard-

ising the city's agreement, earlier this year, to promote the return of thousands of Croats and Serbs who fled during the Bosnian war.

More than 250,000 Kosovo Albanians have been driven from their homes by the Serbian army offensive against ethnic Albanian separatists in Kosovo. Most of the displaced people have hidden in Kosovo or fled into Albania, but in March others began to trickle into Sarajevo by bus from Pristina, the Kosovo capital.

By July up to 1,000 were arriving each month, and this month 1,500 have arrived, officials said. The Bosnian au-

thorities estimate that 10,000 Kosovo Albanians have entered the country since March.

In a city short of accommodation, the Bosnian authorities agreed, after intense pressure from the UN, to put Albanians in two Bosnian refugee transit shelters outside of Sarajevo. But those are now full, and this week, in desperation, the UNHCR turned to an abandoned Coca-Cola distribution plant 10 miles from the city.

About 800 Kosovo Albanians, half of them children, are packed into warehouse-size rooms, strewn with mattresses and clothes and unprotected from the night's cold by the plastic sheets over the broken windows and open doorways.

Inside, the air was damp and close as mothers tended to their infants, some only a couple of weeks old.

"If these children stay here longer than 20 days we will have a catastrophe," said Dusko Tomice, head of the children's Embassy charity in Sarajevo. Mr Tomice, who visited the plant last Saturday, quickly left with one infant whose broken leg was festering inside a dirty cast.

"Infection will come," he said. "It's certain. Even with our own troubles and misery we have to help them. But this is also the world's shame, not just Sarajevo's." — Washington Post.

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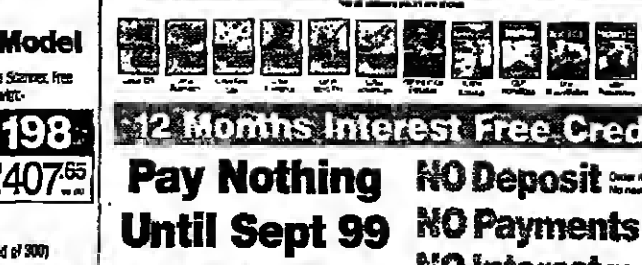
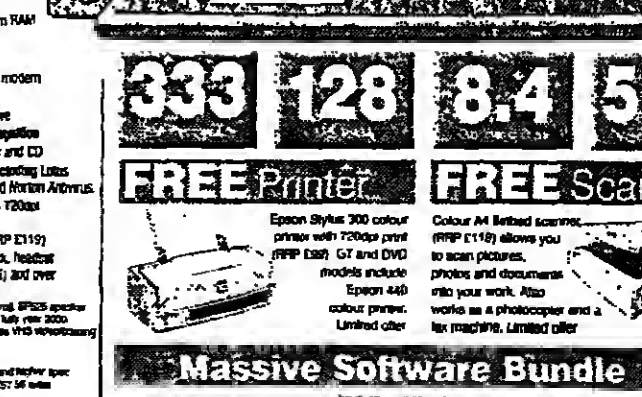
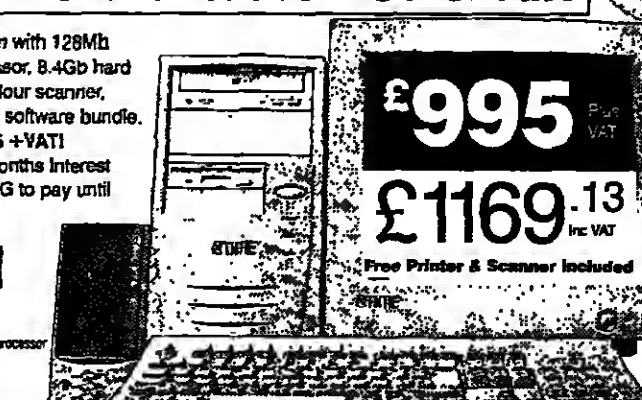
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Schröder in EU overture to Britain

Martin Walker in Bonn

GERHARD Schröder, the Social Democrat candidate for chancellor in Sunday's German election, has offered Britain an equal place in the Franco-German axis at the heart of the European Union. He has defied the narrowing opinion polls to proclaim the coming of a new Europe, led by the three Social Democratic parties.

Mr Schröder's warmth for Tony Blair and New Labour, which is worrying France and its Socialist government, is the sharpest distinction in foreign policy between the Social Democrats and Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats.

"We will not win over the British without equal rights for them," he said. "If Blair's Britain, sensitive to the changes which the 21st century is bringing, wants to join the front ranks of Europe, we would be wrong to spurn them," he wrote in a special article for *Le Monde*, in response to the French alarm.

The first sign of France's unhappiness came at the annual conference of its ambassadors, when the foreign minister, Hubert Vedrine, warned: "With Germany, personal relations are good, but ... our overall relations are not the same as before."

That was a private occasion, but former president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing forced the issue into the open, saying that at best Mr Schröder was "lukewarm" about Franco-German ties; at worst he was far too sympathetic to Mr Blair. "Any trivialisation of Franco-German relations would bring EU progress to a standstill," he warned.

Mr Schröder's overture to Britain does not come without conditions, however. "This standing invitation for Britain to join the Franco-German partnership does not mean we will accept the old Tory checklist," the SPD's international secretary, Michael Hoffman, said yesterday.

As well as the chance for Britain to turn the Franco-German axis into a triangle, the election has focused on German hopes of securing a



Germany decides

British-style rebate on its 26 billion a year net subsidy to Brussels.

Mr Kohl and his finance minister, Theo Waigel, insist that the EU's new six-year budget must include a refund mechanism, so that no country pays a net subsidy of more than 0.3 per cent of national income a year. Backed by Sweden, the Netherlands and Austria, the plan would cut Germany's net payment by 2 billion a year, to the outrage of the highest beneficiaries of the EU budget, Spain, Greece and Portugal.

"Chancellor Kohl's party has been sounding very critical and very tough about Europe. We refuse to do that," said Mr Hoffman. "We aren't naive and we know there will be some hard bargaining on the budget, but we also know that our duty is to make consensus possible when Germany takes over the EU presidency next year. We cannot bring up all our own pet subjects, and must get a budget that suits everybody."

Convinced that it will lead the next government, the SPD has already established a working party to prepare for the German EU presidency, which starts in January. A key topic is reform of the common agricultural policy. Less dependent on the farm vote than Mr Kohl's coalition, the SPD thinks that Germany's budget problem can be eased by reforming farm subsidies.

"Our real concern — and this is where we know we can work with our friends in the left-of-centre governments of France, Britain and Italy — is to achieve something jointly on unemployment at the EU at the end of this year."



Leftwingers parade posters at a Bonn election rally, advising voters to 'Sweep [Kohl] out' and 'Don't trust Schröder'

PHOTOGRAPH: WOLFGANG RATAY

Disaffected east turning its back on Kohl the unifier

Anger at the price of change could cost the chancellor, writes Ian Traynor in Rostock

THE barbed wire and the watchtowers have gone and, east or west, the same Volkswagen Golfs and Opel Astras clog the roads on what was a no man's land between the two Germanys.

You have to look hard to see which side of the old cold war front line you are on, but the little green arrows are the telltale sign. At traffic lights in eastern Germany, the green arrow allows you to turn right on a red light.

East Germans cherish those arrows. Many believe they are about all that remains of their former lives nine years after the Berlin Wall tumbled, and after the \$300 billion poured

into the giant social and economic laboratory that is modern eastern Germany.

"I would never have believed," Chancellor Helmut Kohl said last week, "that 40 years of separation could have such a deep impact on people of the same language, the same history, and the same cultural past. We have grown much further apart than I would have believed."

It was a rare admission by Mr Kohl that although he is the chancellor of unification, he is not the chancellor of German unity. That failure to generate a sense of national belonging may cost him dear this Sunday when voters in

the east turn their back on the man who promised them "dourishing landscapes".

Horst Backes, head of the dole offices in the east German port of Rostock, said "West Germans don't see what they're achieving in the east, only how much it is costing them. Easterners choose to forget that only a few years ago they were driving Trabhis, that their towns were crumbling, that the air was yellow with pollution."

Wolfgang Methling, a candidate for the east's formerly communist PDS, said: "People here will never forget the arrogance of unification. It was carried out as a conquest by the west. The older generation, in particular, will never accept unification now, because it caused so much trauma and pain."

Such criticism from the hard left in the east is com-

mon, and the PDS is consolidating itself as a regional party of protest, taking 20 per cent of the vote among east Germany's 17 million people. In the Kohl camp, too, there is disaffection with the chancellor's record in the east.

Günther Krause, an east German Christian Democrat

are necessary in Germany."

One result in Rostock is a real unemployment rate of 27 per cent, almost triple that in western Germany. Mr Kohl insists that the tide of unemployment has turned.

"It's not true," Mr Backes said. "It's worse than last year, more than every fourth

identify themselves as citizens of unified Germany, although only 17 per cent wanted a restoration of the old communist state."

A survey in July by the respected Allensbach Institute found that 37 per cent of east Germans believed that east and west Germany remained fundamentally different and separate states, an increase of 7 per cent on 1997.

Mr Kohl cruised to victory in the 1990 election on the tide of euphoria following the fall of the wall, and his narrow victory in 1994 was also won in the east.

But this time things are different. Mr Kohl's CDU is polling 10 per cent less than in 1994 in the east and if he has to bow out on Sunday, eight years after unifying Germany, it may be because he has become a victim of his greatest success.

'West Germans don't see what they're achieving in the east, only what it costs'

and a former transport minister, said: "Our biggest failure is that we haven't promoted the right values in the east, socially, culturally, or ideologically. The internal economy in the east is a disaster and Kohl miscalculated completely. He used the boom that followed unification to avoid the structural reforms that

person out of work, and it will get worse still in the winter. But the main problem here is not money ... it's the feeling of being no longer needed or wanted. There's no protest on the streets, just resignation."

The Social Survey 98 for eastern Germany, released this month, found that two thirds of its people did not

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Comment

Diary

Matthew Norman

CELEBRATIONS among parents of Pinlico School over Jack Straw's departure as chairman of governors, over the vexing issue of a building development, have been truncated. In July, you may recall, after being on the wrong end of a crushing no confidence vote, Jack insisted that he would under no circumstances resign. A fortnight ago, he resigned. Now he has trumped himself, and resigned. Jack's problem, apparently, is that the governor to whom he wished to entrust responsibility for ensuring the school's demolition did resign in July — and he remains resigned to this day. What are described as "gasps of astonishment" were heard noted at the governors' meeting on Sunday night when Jack announced he will now stay on until November. Jack, Jack, Jack, what are you playing at? In the name of sanity, do make up your mind.

AS the world ponders the correctness of broadcasting the Clinton tapes, a pungent judgment comes to our attention. "Public media should not contain explicit or implied descriptions of sex acts," it insists. "Our society should be purged of the pervers who provide the media with pornographic material while pretending it has some redeeming social value under the public's 'right to know'." These words were spoken on the American current affairs show 60 Minutes in 1987, by Kenneth Starr.

WE are attempting to verify the existence of the signatory to a Times letter about Viagra. Christopher Newdick, and will report shortly.

FOR an October 8 event in Trafalgar Square to promote CFC-free inhalers, the Health Department has a photo-opportunity idea of bewildering novelty: junior minister Baroness Hayman is to launch balloons. Having had this brainwave, officials have surpassed themselves by applying to the Civil Aviation Authority for clearance. It must be an immense number of balloons to imperil passing aircraft? Seven. Clearance has been duly granted.

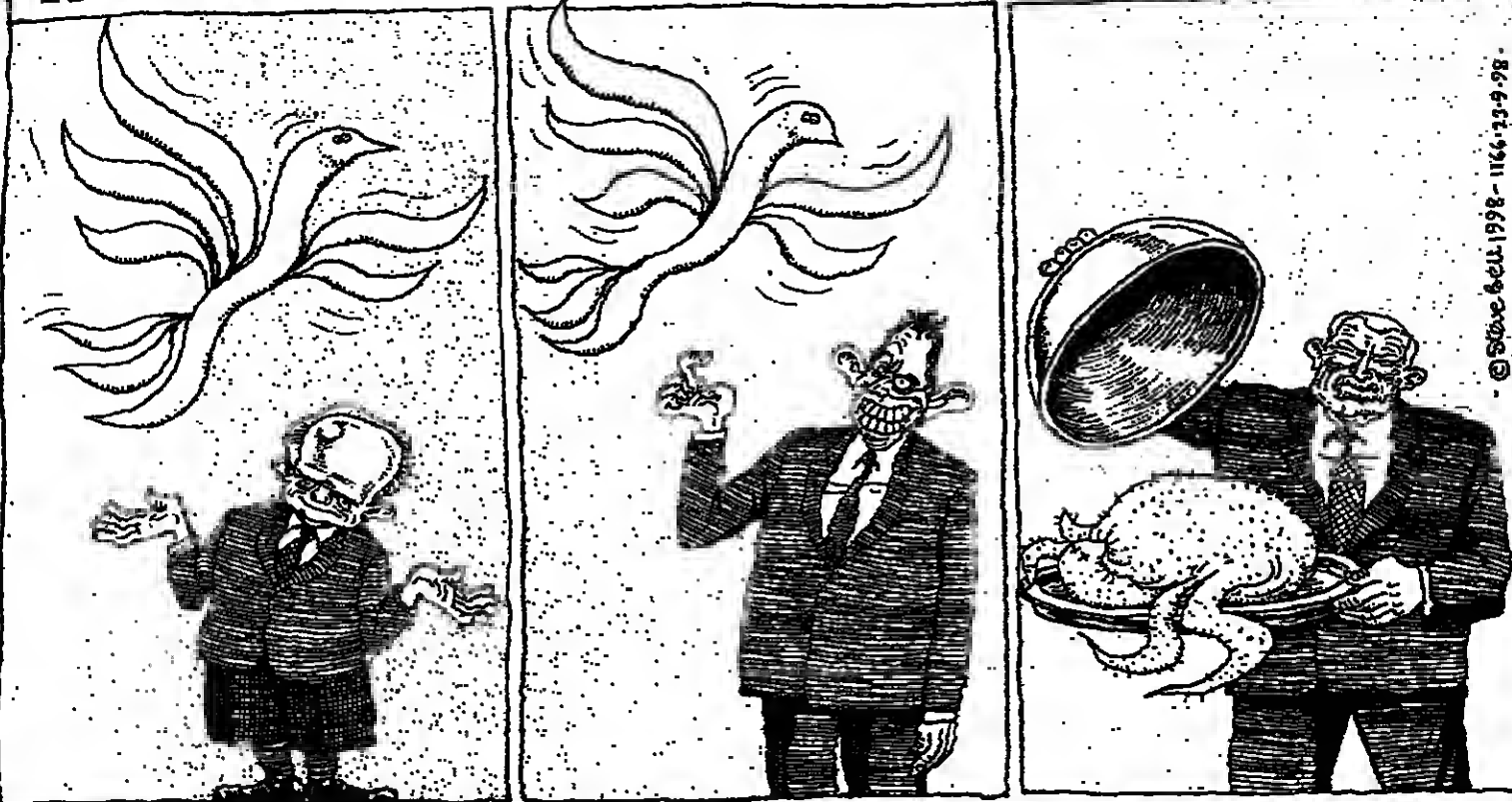
AT 11 Millbank, the Thames-side palace of M15 which was recently refurbished for a bargain £240 million (got its marble flooring, gym and squash courts, two glass-roofed courtyards), a colleague yesterday was intrigued to note, at the rear of the building, a flashing electronic sign. "Black Alert," it warned. "Protestor at Front Entrance. Possible Press Interest." Gratefully for the tip, he rushed to the front. Not a soul. It's good to know that despite the end of the cold war and the tranquility in Northern Ireland, M15 still keeps so busy.

It is my painful duty today to address sharp words to the nation of Hungary. A young woman has been turned off a cut price flight to Damascus via Budapest because, unaware that, being Indian, she needed one even for a few hours in transit — she had no visa. We ring the Hungarian Embassy, and ask a Mr Odze in the press office if it is not impertinence bordering insolence for a small, fledgling democracy to show such discourtesy to the world's largest? "Yes, I completely agree with you," says Mr Odze. "But I had a friend who came here from Hungary with only a credit card and a guitar, and was turned away because he could not show any cash." Mr Odze, you are losing us. "A guitar is a dangerous thing in this country." Aha. We wait the official explanation from the immigration consul, along with the most recent available figures for Indian nationals fleeing transit to seek asylum in Hungary.

WE also await an explanation from the annual Diary of the President. When the Vitesse kettle finally arrived yesterday, it was the model in white and lilac (£34.99); and not, as agreed, the more costly version (£37.99) in apocryphal terracotta splashes. Also, the electrical lead is insanely short.

THE THIRD WAY - AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS

NEITHER RIGHT... ...NOR RIGHT... ...BUT RIGHTISH



Feminists for Bill. Yes, it's still a slogan. They're suffering, but solid

Polly Toynbee



WILL the Democrats now start to fight back and get behind the President? On Capitol Hill yesterday, they were still dithering, uncertain whether they'd do better in the November elections by keeping their distance or by shoring him up. Yesterday's polls showed Clinton's ratings up, but many are still fence-sitting.

All Democrat factions have been going through the same tortuous exercise — but none more so than the women's movement. The influential Congressional Black Caucus has been first to offer their wholehearted backing for Clinton. Now, finally, the powerful women's movement will follow their lead. Tomorrow is of the key national women's groups are holding their first press conference to deliver a united message to oppose Clinton's impeachment. The National Organisation of Women (NOW), the Feminist Majority, Betty Reid, Gloria Steinem and others will rally behind Clinton in a show of public support.

But it hasn't been easy for them. They've had their knickers in a twist over Clinton ever since the first sex scandal broke. Mealy-mouthed press releases from NOW have expressed disgust — and yet, he's the best champion they've got. They are seriously alarmed that women won't turn out to vote Democrat in the elections. The prospect of yet more ultra-right wing Republicans, of the Gingrich variety, in Congress fills them with dread: abortion, equal pay, affirmative action and scores of hard-won laws are threatened by the rightward march on the Capitol.

But they had to wait to see the worst of the Starr evidence before they could throw their weight behind Clinton. So the

contorted process of drafting a joint statement by all these organisations has been going on for days. Conference calls and faxes are still zapping across the country, picking over the tricky wording. The Clinton saga has been a nightmare for them: whichever way they turn there's potential trouble.

It began when the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund felt obliged to support Paula Jones's sexual harassment case, which caused much friction in the movement.

Next came the question, was Lewinsky a harassment victim too? Until they saw all the evidence they couldn't decide. Finally, they concluded she wasn't — at least not in law. But they said Clinton "threatened the dignity and respect of millions of women who must face bosses and co-workers with the false impression that such behaviour was acceptable." Even if she was an eager initiator of the relationship, any relationship of such sheer inequality in power is, well, inappropriate. (Wording here still to be decided). One drafter of tomorrow's statement said tentatively: "The President did not force himself on her and there's plenty of evidence the younger, lower level employee was the aggressor, but there is always a problem where the man is at such a different level of power."

On the other hand, the women were outraged by the double standards of the Republicans in all this. Where did they find this sudden new concern over sexual harassment? It's a concept the right always ridicules. Remember when she accused Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment and prevented his reaching the Supreme Court? Recently

Republicans put a cap on the amount of damages a woman can win in a discrimination case. So why were they suddenly so concerned for Paula Jones's rights that they financed her case?

One women's leader said frankly: "We think Clinton's horrible. He stinks. I can't take any more prayer-breakfast yuckies apologies. If he wants to eat crow, let him apologise to every woman in the country, and to all the decent men who don't behave like him." She writhed at the thought of him getting away with all this. "If he does, I'll just be a part of that 'boys will be boys' thing from Clinton's people. We can't buy that. We have to send out the message that no, boys cannot be boys."

BUT, as ever, the feminists are caught in a cleft stick here, accused of puritanism at best, or of being man-hating, sex-hating, frigid bitches. They don't belong among the family values prudes either: family values is code for undoing all the women's rights they've won. No, they say, they are not anti-sex. It just has to be the right sort of sex, and they hate Republican sex. Take this year's reactionary Welfare Bill which gives each state \$50 million for "abstinence education", teaching kids that the only good sex is no sex. The money can't be used for anything that mentions safe sex, condoms or family planning — it's just say no. The women's movement is rightly horrified.

The certifiable Camille Paglia, who enjoys tormenting feminist puritans, has been predictably all over the place. When the sex in the White House story first broke she said: "I don't want a cold fish. I want someone in the White

House who would love to have sex with 10 different people in three days." But recently she said: "I am completely disgusted. The White House has turned into Bluebeard's castle."

Finally, however, the movement has decided that Clinton has committed no impeachable offence. They may be right. For it occurs to me that if it all revolves around whether he lied about having "sexual relations" with Monica, it's worth turning to history for a definition. In his defence Clinton could have used Lawrence Stone's admirable book, *Uncertain Union*, a social history of sex and marriage. There the practice of "bundling" is described in some detail. Where full sex was forbidden and virginity had to be maintained, couples frequently engaged in everything that Bill and Monica did — but without intercourse the law didn't count it as sex.

However, the law doesn't much concern the women's movement. Although they hate Clinton, they've decided they are wedded to him for better or worse. Above all, they need to get the women's vote out in November to keep Gingrich at bay. Forget Clinton the disgusting leech, they're saying to women, just remember the President who gave women 12 weeks medical leave to care for sick children.

Forget his taste for cigars, but took it how many women he has appointed to senior posts. Never mind the fondling of breasts, he stood by affirmative action and increasing the minimum wage.

The women's movement is being accused by the right of self-interested hypocrisy over Clinton. But in the end, like everyone else, it's all politics and self-interest.

My father was a revolutionary. True anger drove politics then

Bloodless brothers

Ian Aitken



My late and much-lamented father was a full-time professional revolutionary for most of the inter-war years, risking his life for his beliefs during the Spanish civil war. Disillusioned by the Soviet Union in 1939, he subsequently devoted himself to trades unionism, local government and the Labour Party.

He was not a fierce man. On the contrary, he had an essentially affable personality, and could even acknowledge good in some of the Tory councillors with whom he sat on the local borough council. He might not have liked their politics, but he admired their charitable activities.

But his affability did not alter the fact that what drove his political convictions was anger. He could boil with indignation as he read works like the Hammonds' studies of 19th Century poverty, or recalled his own memories of the sufferings of the unemployed in the 1930s. His only regret over his inability to embrace religion was that, if there had been a God, then all those Victorian mill masters and coal owners would have been burning in Hell for their crimes.

What strikes me about New Labour is the sheer bloodlessness of its current search for a *raison d'être*. Not much anger inspired the Third Way, one feels. Even indignation, where it exists, is kept strictly under wraps. High emotion of my father's sort is not just embarrassing; it threatens to frighten the voters of Middle England.

True, two or three members of Mr Blair's ministerial team seem to have retained their capacity for anger. One of them is good old Dobbo, the Health Secretary, who has made not the slightest effort to shed his rich capacity for indignation, and as a direct result, is now one of the success stories of the government. Another is John Prescott, who totally tries to suppress his natural indignation at the injustices around him, but consistently fails. Another is Clare Short, even if she occasionally gets angry with the wrong people.

THERE are a few others. Steam can occasionally be seen emerging from Margaret Beckett's ears as she listens on the front bench to the bland evasions of her colleagues. But she has been safely defused by her removal from the active exercise of

power at the Trade and Industry Department. Her replacement, alas, is the most bloodless of them all — Peter Mandelson.

"Oh yes," I hear the Milbank spin-masters reply, "but the miseries of the means test and the suffering of child labourers in Victorian factories are hardly relevant today. Anger is no longer a rational response, even if it was right and proper to your father's day." And up to a point that is true.

But it does not alter the fact that there is plenty to be angry about in the closing decade of the 20th century. Gruesome injustices are being inflicted on the peoples of Asia by the International Monetary Fund in their attempt to rebuild a world fit for bankers.

The Russian government is being lectured about its duty to repay its international debts, while simultaneously being told that it would be inflationary — and therefore wrong — to pay starving workers the wages they have been denied for months on end.

AFRICAN teenagers slaughter each other with guns pressed in their hands by European arms manufacturers. Meanwhile, their smaller siblings starve because Western debt collectors are squeezing out the last drop of interest on so-called "aid" loans. And back home, a moderate trades unionist is castigated as a class warrior for denouncing the greed of buccaneer businessmen who while themselves huge bonuses while tightening the screws on their workers' wages.

Plenty of room for anger there, one feels. And then one notices that New Labour does

High emotion of my father's sort now threatens to frighten voters

indeed have a capacity for anger. It is angry with Old Labour for having the effrontery to put up candidates in the election for the party's National Executive. So angry, indeed, that it is buying advertising space in the newspapers, paying a telephone canvassing firm, firing off mail-shots and sending ballot papers to people it knows are ineligible to vote, all in order to defeat the Old Labour candidates and elect a New Labour slate.

All done, of course, in the interests of a hunger for party unity so intense that they get no less a person than Neil Kinnock — among other things, the former chairman of the board of Nye Bevan's old newspaper, *Tribune* — to denounce *Tribune's* present editor as a Trotskyist stooge. I'm fond of old Neil, but if I hadn't voted for Mark Seddon at a rally, that would have persuaded me.

Horrid new shock! Pythonesque perversions revealed in the White House

Toilet talk

Terry Jones



AMERICA may never recover from the revelations of the infamous Scar Inquiry into alleged corrupt practices by President Clinton in what is called the Whitewater affair.

The \$40 billion enquiry has failed to establish any financial improprieties by the President, but in the course of his unbiased and independent investigation

Mr Scar has unearthed shocking details of the President's private life, which could lead to his impeachment and to a revolution in attitudes to the Presidency. It turns out that all the time that Mr Clinton has been acting as President of the United States, he has, in fact, been secretly going to the bathroom.

The shock report, released by the independent, unbiased prosecutor, Ken Scar, details how the President has actually defecated in the White House (one of the most historic and beloved buildings on Earth), sometimes only minutes before greeting important guests of state.

The report describes in lurid detail, which has shocked America, how he has wiped his bottom on numerous occasions, using a piece of toilet tissue held in his right hand between

thumb and forefinger (the same hand with which he shook the hand of the President of Bolivia). He has, the report claims, rubbed this paper upon his anus until it has become discoloured and fouled.

Washington is still reeling from the threat of further revelations of Clinton's secret activities in the White House bathroom.

"This thing goes further than just the President," claims Ken Scar. "There are those on his staff who must have known what he was doing in there."

Under questioning, the President claimed that while in the bathroom he was attending to his own business. Later, before the Grand Jury, he was accused of lying, and it was put to him that he had in fact been defecating. The President responded that as far as he was aware the phrase "attending to my own business" covered the sort of thing he had been doing in the bathroom.

MR Scar, the totally independent, unbiased prosecutor replied that "business" in his book (and in that of every God-fearing lover of America and pie he'd ever been to church with) meant making money and that was certainly not what Mr Clinton had been doing in the White House bathroom. Furthermore, a Senator from the Klondike put a resolution before the House of Representatives that



President Clinton should be forced to pay for all the time he had — at the taxpayers' expense — been secretly defecating and urinating in one of the most historic and beloved buildings on Earth.

America is braced for the publication of further details of nose-picking, ear-poking, farting, belching and leaving stains — all practised by the President while in one of the most hallowed places on the planet.

Although going to the bathroom in the White House is in itself not sufficient grounds for impeachment, according to political analysts, the fact that the President had sworn under oath to the Grand Jury may be grounds for impeachment. The White House defence that the President was merely using an euphemism generally employed by people going to the bath-

room has been ridiculed by his opponents. They are also set to further embarrass the President by releasing video tapes of him apparently sitting on the john. To the howls of Democratic protest, the leader of the House, Newt Gingrich, replied "the American people have the right to see what their President has been doing in one of the most historic and beloved buildings on Earth and judge for themselves."

Some political analysts have pointed out that, in future, able and capable men may be discouraged from running for president by what some see as a witch-hunt. They also claim that in future the candidates for the Presidency may well be only more conscientious liars than Bill Clinton, or less Republicans who, it is known, never go to the bathroom.

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'Research has shown that the breast-like hills of Manchester still exist'
John Walker, Letters

Germans aim for change

As long as it is painless

THE last week of the German election campaign reveals an electorate which seems reluctant to give either of the main parties a clear victory. The lead of Gerhard Schröder and the Social Democratic Party over Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the Christian Democrats has been slipping since March. Then Schröder and the SPD were 12 points ahead of Kohl and the CDU. Now that lead is down to between five and two points. This shrinkage of the SPD advantage is not the result of a brilliant campaign by Kohl or of miscalculations by the SPD. It is probably due to the reluctance of the voters of the centre to envisage as comfortable options either the present conservative coalition being confirmed in power or a coalition of the SPD and the Greens taking its place. When asked what they believe the result of the election will be most voters plump for a coalition of the two big parties. This may be their preference as well as their expectation.

A clear CDU or SPD victory would have unsettling elements of uncertainty for Germans, whether it is personalities, parties, or policies that loom largest in their minds. Having the 68-year-old Kohl as Chancellor again would not solve the CDU succession problem, since at some time in a new term Kohl would have to give way to a younger man. Although Kohl's likely successor is an able and popular figure, he is still an unknown quantity as leader. That is equally the case with Schröder. In terms of parties Germans are again looking at unknowns.

The CDU that was shaped by Kohl's unique brand of assiduous networking over 25 years must inevitably change as his departure comes closer. The SPD is even more a party in transition, and likening Schröder to Blair or Clinton does not much help in establishing where that transition is tending. Finally, when voters look at policies, they see a roughly similar set of proposals from the two main parties, all looking toward a careful reform of the German social state so that German business can maintain its world position. The uncertainty is less about what the policies are than whether they have much chance of working, and whether something more radical and painful might be in store.

The German election system could produce dramas next Sunday. The CDU could be undone if its long time junior partner, the FDP, should fall below the 5 per cent of the vote required for representation in the parliament. The SPD could lose the chance of forming a coalition with the Greens if the Party of Democratic Socialism, formerly communist, does get into parliament either by getting 5 per cent of the national vote or by winning enough direct mandates. Success for the PDS would reduce the combined total of SPD and Green seats, making it harder, or impossible, for them to form a government. But both of these possible upsets would have the same effect as what appears to be the movement of opinion among middle of the road voters, making a grand coalition more likely or unavoidable. Germany is not alone among Western nations in being in a puzzled and even confused state of mind. But German perplexity may be greater than that of others. The achievements of the past — the successes of German industry, the German welfare system, the unification of the country, and Germany's role in EMU — now form less a

basis for further advances than the framework in which growing difficulties must be confronted. Germans sense the need for change. But, like voters in many countries, they want it to be painless and guaranteed in advance. The question which the growing number of people who seem to prefer a grand coalition should ponder before next Sunday is whether such a government would be a coalition for reform or a recipe for inaction.

When jail is wrong

Will Jack Straw take the lead?

NOT since the Chief Inspector of Prisons walked out of Holloway has he been so angry over penal conditions. Sir David Ramsbotham's report on the Werrington young offender institution in Staffordshire is an indictment of prison service management. In an age when ministers have been stressing the importance of improving youth justice, the prison service turned a regime designed for child prisoners into an "utterly unsuitable" adult prison. The chief inspector uncovered inadequate medical provision, chronic overcrowding, and "appalling" reception procedures under which young arrivals had to "undergo a torrent of abuse" from other inmates as a form of initiation. But it was the change in regime which angered him most. "To find that adult prison conditions have been deliberately introduced, overturning previous appropriate treatment and conditions for children, is nothing short of disgraceful." In perhaps the most stinging condemnation he has delivered, he added: "I have not come across such totally deliberate and unnecessary impoverishment of children anywhere and suspect that, were Werrington to be a

secure custody unit in the hands of Social Services, it would be closed."

Sensibly, the Chief Inspector defends the prison's governor and staff from their impossible task and concentrates his fire on anonymous managers. The director of the prison service responded yesterday by ordering "an urgent report". It ought to name the anonymous administrators, just as governors who make mistakes are identified by the system. But beyond that there are large strategic moves needed from ministers. Next week a new youth justice system begins. The Crime and Disorder Act rightly emphasised the need for better crime prevention and stronger co-ordination of services, but fell far short of changing penal policy. The increase in use — and length — of prison sentences is unsustainable. The system is now accommodating 50 per cent more inmates with only 5 per cent more resources. With the publication earlier this month of a unanimous report from the Home Affairs select committee on the inappropriate use of prison, it is time for ministers to give a lead. The Chief Inspector believes 70 per cent of women prisoners and 40 per cent of young inmates should not be inside. This would save the system £500 million. A Tory administration in the 1980s went one step further: banning 15- and 16-year-olds from remands in prison. Is Jack Straw ready to be as liberal?

ran against his audience at the end of a show, not realising the microphone hadn't been switched off. Bill Clinton's equivalent of the microphone not switched off is the emails that were erased but which the FBI managed to reconstruct from the traces left on computer hard disks. The Starr report admits that some of Ms Lewinsky's statements about her relationship with Mr Clinton were "contemporaneously memorialized" including "deleted email recovered from her home computer and her Pentagon computer" plus email messages retained by two of the recipients. The President has learned the hard way what geeks have always known — email is less secure than ordinary mail. At least you can burn a postcard.

The Clinton crisis wouldn't have happened in the way it did but for the intrusive technologies of the multi-media revolution. For a president, there is simply no escape from prying cameras, ever-listening tapes, video links, instant Internet publishing (including material that newspapers would otherwise hesitate to publish) and email — which has unleashed a subculture of intimate communication unknown a decade ago. And it isn't just presidents who are affected. Our activities are monitored more thoroughly than ever before — by detailed phone statements, restaurant bills, bank statements, street cameras, mobile phone signals, microphones in supermarkets, swipe cards to enter the office and electronic fingerprints left all over the Internet. Goodness knows what will happen when the Internet really gets into its stride and becomes the main medium for commerce, communication and home entertainment. Unless there is a reaction to the way things are going, future generations may look back on Bill Clinton as the last president who enjoyed a reasonable degree of privacy.

The net closes

Presidents can't hide anymore

ELIA KAZAN's film, *A Face In The Crowd* (filmed, interestingly, in Arkansas), told the story of a vagrant who became a broadcast superstar. But the media which built him up cut him down in seconds when he

Letters to the Editor

The last laugh is on the left

PROFESSOR Callinicos tries to persuade us that the left has a sense of humour (Letters, September 22). Maybe. But he certainly doesn't have a sense of irony. John O'Farrell's piece (Confessions of an ex-lefty, September 19) was based on various stereotypes and caricatures of earnest, well-intentioned, humourless socialists. Or so I thought until I read Callinicos's letter.

Dr Philip Allmoninger, Leeds Metropolitan University.

THERE is of course only one correct way to make tea — that prescribed by the British Standards Institute (BS 6808: 1980). It is disappointing that so dissenting a gourmet as Professor Callinicos should appear to be unaware of the sterling efforts of one of our own quangos (Letters, September 21 and 22).

Danny O'Hare, Brighton.

YOU report yet another case in which a teenager driving in a high performance car was involved in a tragic accident (Porsche show-off killed sisters, September 22). Motorcyclists under the age of 21 may ride bikes of no more than 35hp. Should there not be a comparable restriction for young car drivers when not under supervision from someone more experienced?

Dr Brian Robinson, Curry Mallet, Somerset.

Bill: the readers' verdict

I FEEL impelled to support President Clinton after watching Monday's pornographically-inspired TV presentation. This is a matter of personal conduct, a private matter that his family have been able to accept and live with. His true but tricky answers were to very tricky questions. If this is not acceptable to the US public they indeed need God as president.

Clinton, though weakened by Republican opposition, has improved the lot of his people, although abroad, in common with most US presidents since Roosevelt, he has shown bad judgment.

Clinton is not a great president but he is the best available to join in tackling the present world economic turmoil. God help the world if the Republicans regain absolute power by such crude means.

Tony Wix, Cheshire.

It would be a disaster, a capitulation in the face of what is effectively a right wing coup, and calling in to question whether a liberal president can ever govern the United States.

Colin Hinkley, London.

ISA and Scott Weldmann (Letters, September 22) speak very highly of the American public's ability to recognise the distinction between sexual and political morality. It has been said before that the presidential status fulfils two roles — political leader and representative of the country. Maybe the American public are not capable of judging between President Clinton's sexual conduct and his political conduct. Clinton does not seem to qualify morally for either.

Personally, I couldn't give a toss about who he has sex with, but I am furious that everyone seems to have forgotten about the poorly justified and shocking bombing of the Sudan and Afghanistan.

J K Maher, London.

believeable is the amazing coincidence whereby the judge in the Paula Jones case used a definition which has provided the basis of Clinton's ludicrous defence ever since. The president's lawyers could not have done better if they had drafted the definition themselves.

Peter Fairweather, Faversham, Kent.

HOORAY for Polly Toynbee (Letters, September 22). It is absolutely appalling that one of the most powerful men in the world is pilloried on television for a sexual misdemeanour. Heaven help us if all politicians had to go through what Clinton went through. The television would never be off Jennie Hanlon.

Birmingham.

MARTIN Kettle (Lynch-moh upsends sense and mercy, September 21) and Polly Toynbee hit the nail on the head with two pieces of sane and sanguine journalism. Now will you please devote rather more column inches to what are real crises in the world today, rather than politically manufactured ones?

Paul Smith, Ashford, Kent.



More tales of escape from Army life

LIKE Marion Ward (Letters, September 22) I left the Salvation Army in the early seventies. Like her, I found it authoritarian, intrusive and hidebound. I left — indeed I was invited to leave — because I found the many manifestations of these traits unacceptable, not only for myself as a lay member but even more, for many of its good ministers (officers).

It was surely bizarre, however, for Ms Ward to leave the Army — finding its misogyny unacceptable — for the Anglican church of 25 years ago. My Radio 3 Classical chief of head Radio 3, September 22, Roger Wright has at least two major things going for him. The first is that he is not Hilary Boulding, certainly the least effective programmer the network has ever had imposed upon it. The second is that he brings to the job a wider experience of the serious music world than any previous controller bar John Drummond.

Let us hope that, once La Boulding has been quietly disposed of, he can use that experience to restore the standards that she has so eroded.

Stephen Follows, Save Radio 3, Oxford.

The neo-Darwinian debate on sex continues to evolve

HAVE long thought that the human female is clearly designed for promiscuity and the male for monogamy. Women are capable of multiple orgasms and are thus biologically driven to have sex with several men in one session. Men, famously, have one orgasm and fall asleep, nature cleverly providing the opportunity for the unsatisfied woman to slip away and copulate with other men who may produce a better quality of sperm.

Perhaps biology has ensured that human males have evolved with a prodigious capacity for self-delusion, as demonstrated by Professor Steven Pinker (Letters, September 22) which would be useful if women were to get away with this.

Caroline Goodall, Edinburgh.

IT is non-Darwinian to suggest that evolutionary processes provided more sex

drive to one sex than to the other. And the genes of the most powerful man on earth with a great sex drive have less probability of success than the genes of a social security "scrounger" with 10 children. Frankly, oral sex is non-Darwinian because it does not produce children.

Adam Vetta, Dixton, Oxford.

WHAT exactly is the difference between an evolutionary likelihood about what is the case and a moral necessity about what ought to be the case? Using Pinker's example, the ancestral man who fathers 50 children is certainly likely to have more children than the man who has none. But this evolutionary fact is compatible with different moral conclusions about how many children (if any) any man should have, morally speaking.

Dr Leslie Smith, Lancaster University.

Time to get busy over the plight of the humble bee

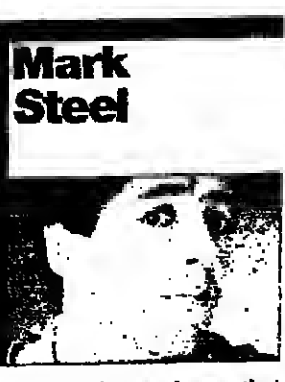
I WAS pleased to see your report outlining the pragmatic approach taken by beekeepers to the serious problem of Varroa affecting UK honey bees (Flying squads hired to save fruit, September 7). Unfortunately the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has failed to respond in such a constructive way. Since I raised the problem of Varroa

(an alien mite destroying bees at an incredible rate) in the House of Commons, there has been very little response from MAFF. There are few licensed chemical treatments available. However there are treatments stuck in the quagmire of government approval and other treatments available abroad but illegal in the UK.

The UK beekeeping "industry" is the primary means of pollination for £7 billion of British fruit. It is therefore vital that the Government tackles this issue. The question is literally to be or not to be. Archie Norman MP, House of Commons.

We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear.

Parasite yourself



THANK goodness that these days Neil Kinnock delivers his insults in print. At least it forces him to wind up before 45 minutes of incoherent nonsense. I shouldn't imagine he ever got in a pub fight in his youth, as he'd be standing there for hours going "Is it not the case that you singularly look it upon yourself, without recourse to request or indeed to recall, to partake of the beer which was pur-

chased by myself, notwithstanding a spirit imbued not of generosity but of animosity, not of co-operation but of confrontation, not of oratory but of original. You slag."

Some of the Grassroots Alliance candidates for Labour's NEC, he says, are "parasites". You'd think you'd be a bit careful about using that word when you're earning £200,000 a year in Europe as reward for losing an election to an imbecile.

Who was offered the job as European transport commissioner? I wonder if he learned across the desk to the interviewer, said: "I won't ever have to stand for election will I? Oh thank Christ for that. I'll take it then."

It was also typical that, after six years of alliance, ignoring Bosnia, Northern Ireland and the rise of European fascism, the one issue on which he speaks up is an internal Labour Party election. This is because Kinnock's career has been like that of a

band with one hit. His proudest moment came when he attacked the Militant Tendency at Labour's conference. The media loved him, and he was hailed as a star of the future. Since then everything he's done has been a disaster. So his recent outburst is a desperate attempt to re-release his hit, updating it for the nineties. If he makes a speech at the conference he'll use the same words as in 1985, but with a drum 'n' bass backing.

That 1985 speech supposedly made him appear tough. But like any bully he could only be tough when he couldn't lose. With the backing of all the press and most of his party he was tough to a section of Liverpool council, but a complete pussycat to Margaret Thatcher. It was like Lennox Lewis running away from his opponent, then shouting "Look how tough I am" as he punches the bloke who rings the bell.

Which is why the strongest

part of his attack on the candidates of the Grassroots Alliance is that they were to blame for Labour losing elections. This is like David Birtley saying the reason we were knocked out of the world cup was because Liz Davies can't take penalties. The 1983 election is the accepted trough of Labour's electoral fortunes, but in 1987, despite there being no Falklands War, no donkey jackets, a succession of Tory scandals and four years of Kinnock's toughness, the Labour vote went up by just 3.2 per cent.

And how can he blame "sectarians and Trotskyists" for losing in 1987? Maybe his memory is failing and he thinks it was Liz Davies who started yelping like a rock star on stage in the Sheffield rally. Was it "Trotskyists" who condemned the anti poll-tax campaign, so that the number of people who voted Labour was three million fewer than the number who refused to pay?

"They always prefer to

fight a battle in the party than put their energies into combating Labour's opponents," he rails against the Grassroots state: another strange insult considering his one 1985 hit. But even leaving that aside, of who did Margaret Thatcher say: "In seven years he didn't let me down once." Mr Tough, with his genius for combating Labour's opponents, that's who.

KINNOCK claims that followers of the Grassroots Alliance are being "duped". There is another explanation Blair is following a course which includes policies that even Thatcher didn't try, like charging fees for students and privatising the Post Office. Soon we'll be thinking "I hope he invites her round for advice again, as she might swing him to the left". As a result, many Labour members wish to register a protest. And when it comes to damaging the Labour move-

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Geoffrey Dutton

Literature and liberty

GEOFFREY Dutton, who has died aged 76, made a crucial contribution to Australian letters for more than 50 years as a prolific writer, incisive critic and pioneering publisher. He also helped to kick-start the country's post-war republican movement.

Often flamboyant, he produced more than 40 works, including poetry, novels, children's books and a frank autobiography, *Out in the Open* — and was variously a friend and patron to many of his country's leading writers, including Patrick White, Peter Carey and Elizabeth Jolley.

Friends say one of his most engaging traits was his generous advice and encouragement to young writers, some of whom he published as a founding editor of Penguin Books Australia. He also played a key role in the Australian Council for the Arts in the 1960s, and was among the founders and chief literary advisers of the Adelaide festival.

Dutton was born into a wealthy pastoralist family in a sprawling sheep station called Anahby, north of Adelaide. He was sent to the exclusive Geelong Grammar School, which he said he found an infinitely depressing experience, and at the outbreak of the second world war he enlisted as a flying instructor with the Royal Australian Air Force.

Dutton's first volume of poetry, *Nightlight and Sunrise*, was published in 1945. His experiences, which included surviving a plane crash in New Guinea and a spell in a military prison for fighting, formed the basis of one of his best novels, *Andy*.

After the war he went to Magdalen College, Oxford, for three years, where one of his tutors was C S Lewis. But while he enjoyed the univer-



Dutton... republican views

sity, he was not so impressed with Britain. "The climate was vile," he wrote. "The dinginess and the overcrowding depressing, and worst of all, despite hopes raised by the comradeship of war, the class system was entrenched as strongly as it had ever been."

Back in Australia in the 1950s, Dutton became a senior lecturer in English at the University of Adelaide. He also consolidated a writing career which was to result in five novels, including *Queen Emma of the South Seas*.

Later, after a visiting professorship at Kansas State University, Dutton wrote a powerful article in the weekly magazine, *Nation*, arguing

of the significant periodicals, Australian Letters and the Australian Book Review. During the 1960s, he was literary editor of the weekly magazine, *Bulletin*, and later of the Australian newspaper.

Friends said his elegance as a writer was reflected in his personality as a great raconteur with a network of friends in the arts and business worlds, which gave him an often unseen influence. The artists Sidney Nolan and Arthur Boyd were among his friends, and he had a close relationship with the writer Patrick White — which was to end spectacularly.

Dutton's 1994 autobiography told how White had been angry with him for receiving a grant from the Literature Board of Australia, and accepting help from an American oil company to write a book about his homeland. Their 20-year friendship ended after Dutton wrote an article in *Bulletin* on White's work which angered him. "I've had enough of Dutton, and will you not ring me. Please let there be no correspondence," wrote the author.

Yevgeny Yevushenko also became a close friend of Dutton after he invited the Russian poet to the Adelaide Festival in 1966 and 1973. Dutton took him for a tour of the outback and arranged for the translation of many of his poems. Dutton was researching a book on the people he had known when he collapsed after suffering a stroke.

He is survived by three children, his first wife, Ninette, his estranged second wife, Robin Lucas, and his fiancée, Dr Lurline Stuart.

Christopher Zinn

Geoffrey Piers Henry Dutton, author and publisher, born August 2, 1922; died September 17, 1998



Calamai... with Massimo Girotti in Ossessione — she was dismayed by the rushes but realised that Visconti knew what he was doing RONALD GRANT

Clara Calamai

From nudity to neo-realism

THE Italian actress Clara Calamai, who in international film-goers' memory most as the sensual wife in Luchino Visconti's first feature, *Ossessione*, has died in Rimini, aged 89. Though her name is unequivocally linked to this film, for which Visconti adapted an Italian setting James Cain's novel *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, in Italy Calamai had caused a furor in 1941 when director Alessandro Blasetti had her breasts, making history with what has become known as "the first nude scene of the Italian cinema".

The scene, on only 18 frames of film and lasting a fraction of a second on the screen, was at the beginning of Blasetti's *La cenerentola* (The Cinderella), which was based on a famous costume drama set in 16th-century Florence by Sam Benelli, whose verse melodramas had a certain success on the Italian stage and abroad. In it, Amadeo Nazzari, a popular actor who was often called the Italian Clark Gable, tears off the blouse of the seductive Genevieve to tease a group of other noblemen. The scene shocked the moralists of the time and caused some embar-

assment to the cultural minister of Mussolini's government, Pavolini, whose lover was another attractive movie star, Doris Duranti. She immediately insisted on being allowed to show off her breasts in the film she was about to make.

Not much is known about Clara Calamai, who was born in Prato, got into the film business, but she soon won a name as a star of the costume melodramas of the later 1930s, among which was Blasetti's *Storie Fiammesche*, based on the popular novel by the 19th-century Piedmontese aristocrat and writer Massimo d'Azeglio, in which she played a voluptuous courtesan.

How she came in 1942 to be cast in *Ossessione* is itself a legend. The role was to have been played by Anna Magnani, but though she had tried to hide the fact, she was visibly five months' pregnant when she arrived on the set. Giuseppe De Santis and Gianni Pucelli, then Visconti's assistants and co-scriptwriters, vouched for Calamai's acting potential in spite of her image as a sophisticated movie star.

She had just made her stage debut in Schiller's *The Robbers* and was summoned to

Ferrara, where Magnani was staying in the same hotel, still hoping that Visconti might change his mind. Production staff had a hard time keeping them from meeting.

Visconti was impressed by Calamai's dishevelled appearance and hoarse voice — the result of travel fatigue. When he saw her dolled up the next day, he gave orders to Alberto De Rossi, later to become the Italian cinema's most famous choice for the role of the Roman housewife who is seduced by the Nazis, but this time it was Magnani who got the part.

Not surprisingly, Calamai was dismayed when she saw the rushes of *Ossessione*, realising she was losing the allure she had done so much to cultivate. But she was intelligent enough to realise that Visconti knew what he was doing. The film was to have a short-lived notoriety, as it didn't please the fascist rulers. The Duke's son, Vittorio Mussolini, who was head of the film industry, declared: "This is not the real Italy", and the negative was destroyed. Only many years later was Visconti able to make duplicates from a print he had kept.

It did not do much to help Calamai's career at the time either. After the armistice in 1943 she refused to go to Venice, where Mussolini's puppet republic had transferred the film industry, preferring to return to making the kind of sophisticated comedies and melodramas still popular in post-war Italy. She even won an acting award for one, *The Adulteress*.

Calamai married an aristocrat, Count Leonardo Bonzi,

who was a partner in the film company Carlo Ponti had set up in Milan during the war — their most successful production was *Piccolo Mondo Antico*, which gave stardom to another actress of her generation, Alida Valli. By the time *Ossessione* began to appear again, it was too late to give Calamai a second career.

In 1976, Dario Argento, who had been a film critic before becoming famous as a cultist director of horror movies, cast her for the role of David Hemmings's mother in *Profondo Rosso* (Deep Red), as a deluded actress who drives her son to self-destruction.

After her death was announced, Argento recalled: "Nobody remembered her or knew where she lived. She was just the kind of actress I needed for my film. She was like an excited child when she returned to the set. She lived alone in an apartment near Via Veneto full of vestiges of her past. I was to see her quite often after that, though she never made another film."

John Francis Lane

Clara Calamai, actress, born September 7, 1909; died September 21, 1998

Letters: Anthony Tucker and Bryce Gallie

Phil Harris writes: Sadly I only spoke to Anthony Tucker (*Obituary*, September 16) once, when he phoned me about an auto-radiograph I had sent him, post-Chernobyl, of a radioactively very hot microscopic particle of ruthenium that had been collected by our donkey and presented neatly in a dung ball. In those days after Chernobyl, knowing that this official information did not match what we were finding out there, there was the relief when the Guardian arrived with Tucker's version.

Your obituary mentioned his reticence over his time flying Spitfires in North Italy with the Royal Air Force. He did write about that period in his life: there was a beautifully written, long piece in the Guardian a long time ago that I kept as a historical docu-

ment. In Downpatrick, and elsewhere. They shared political convictions, working with the Labour Party and CND. In this and in other respects they complemented each other in a healthy competition. Similarly, they both shared a great love of literature and an understanding of its moral and spiritual relevance to life.

Bryce was a man of deep sensibility and wide culture. Just weeks before his death he told me that, despite difficulties, he was still gaining solace from his favourite poets, Wordsworth and Yeats. These and Goethe were his exemplary literary figures, ideal types of that humane courage and nobility that he possessed in abundance himself.

A Country Diary

TAMAR VALLEY: Steep, conical Rame Head, topped with St Michael's vaulted chapel, overlooks south-westerly approaches to the Tamar estuary, bearing the brunt of gale-force winds. Southwards, Eddystone lighthouse rears out of the glassy, rolling sea, a dark jagged pattern mirroring racing clouds. Eastwards, across the mouth of Plymouth Sound, is the Great Mew Stone and westwards, Whit-sand Bay, long popular as a day trip for Plymouthians, crossing on the Torpoint ferry into Cornwall. The long beach is deserted, grey muddy surf backed by cliffs, covered in brownish bracken and bright patches of heather. At the far end, Tregantle Fort, Port of Plymouth's defence, is still used casually as a military barracks and the firing range functions when the red flag flies.

Back from the coast, Rame's isolated church-spire overlooks exposed fields of stubble awaiting the combine. Lanes, draped with blackberries, hawthorn and elderberries, lead away from cliff land into valleys of bright green, newly-seeded grass, faded pasture and sea-side fields rampant with seeded docks. Black, plastic-wrapped silage bales are stacked in corners and a tractor and trailer trundle by, loaded with straw bales. Across the Lynher river, larger fields, around Port Eliot, are already sown to winter corn and, on the far north horizon, rain clouds skim the top of Kit Hill. By 4pm, bedges and trees cast long shadows and starlings and swallows fidget on telephone wires.

Soon it will be Michaelmas, Cornwall's traditional farm-rent review day. Despite some September sunshine, farmers are gloomy, anxious for rent reductions to reflect falls in commodity prices and poor harvests.

VIRGINIA SPIERS

John Fraser

Setting the stage alight

THE first time I met the designer John Fraser, who has died aged 51, was backstage at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He was elbow deep in paper-naché making arm-mour for St Joan, an unpaid prop-maker pretending to be a worker. He was lanky, working class and full of himself.

We were both students and I was looking for a designer for *The Fire Raisers*. He had come, highly recommended, from the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. With his superb designs we made it to the final of the National Union of Students' Drama Festival, and cemented our friendship. He was a political animal — old Labour — having been brought up in a Liverpool dockland terraced house. He did not beat a bathroom until he was 13 years of age. He did have a developed gift for creating his own community.

One evening in his family background that set it apart from the others that he had books, bought by his father, a sensitive man. John devoured them and stayed in doors, drawing, always drawing. He went to a local secondary modern school, and hoarded money to go, secretly, to the theatre. He knew he was different, creative, a fighter and would make it. Via the

care and affection of an English teacher, Miss Dean, he gained unqualified access to the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School's design course. And before he left home he discovered the Liverpool Youth Theatre — and kindred spirits.

After the Vic school he moved to London, and after a paint shop and prop-making apprenticeship at Glynde-bourne, became a sought-after designer in regional rep. He spent a rich and formative time with the Tyneside Theatre Company in the early 1970s. As a costume designer, his fittings were like lightning. In stage design terms he was the minimalist — witness his incredible masks for *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* and Tony Haygarth's *Azizak*. He also had a knack for the fantastical broad brushstroke, as in the gothic mountains that dominated his *Peer Gynt*, defying the design awkwardness of the stage of the Tyneside Theatre. He made actors feel they were in, and surrounded by, an incredible vision. He also made it fun.

At the English National Opera his designs for *Madame Butterfly* had a stunning delicacy and were followed by *Romeo and Juliet* and *Der Freischütz*. An invitation

came from the Shah of Iran to design four ballets and he roved from Scottish Opera and Scottish Ballet to five years of Westford festivals and Hong Kong, covering everything from *L'Inferno* to *Peaks et Melisande* and *The Nutcracker*.

Perhaps ballet became his real design love. It allowed his imagination free rein, unfettered by the demands of realism. After John's lengthy stint in theatre and opera, he announced that he had "had enough bleeding" art. I need some cash," and moved into television costume design.

JOHN and I first worked together on television on Yorkshire's period drama series for kids, *How We Used to Live*, which was made for buttons. The look was superb. He had brought history alive. The actors knew it and swelled to meet their characters. He had the eye, and the glass, for making everyone feel confident. He became YTV's senior designer on a vast array of plays and series.

This year we worked together again on *The Brothers Men*. He hopped and haggled round street markets, with an amazing magpie ability to do it on the cheap, while making the actors look like a million dollars.

John never lost that Liverpoolian wit or his sense of social justice. A sitting tenant of years in his Maida Vale flat, he was recently threatened with an extortionate rent increase — and took on the landlords at the rent tribunal. "Madam," he declared to the middle-class lady beak, "you are mixing the surrealism of Kafka with the politics of the madhouse." He won.

His death leaves us bereft of a generous friend and a hugely talented colleague. He leaves a much-loved mother, Maudie, sisters Diane and Vicky, brother Robert and twin brother Peter.

Carol Wilkie

John Fraser, designer, born February 7, 1947; died August 25, 1998

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

THERE were two editing errors in a letter about efforts to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo, page 17, September 21, from Ahmad Fawzi, director, United Nations, London. We referred to the OAJ instead of the OAU. More seriously we said that Kofi Annan "was trying to find a formula to get the warring factions to stop fighting and talking" — that should have been "stop fighting and start talking".

THE BENEFICIARY of the sale of Ginger Spice's Union Jack (sic) dress — an extended caption, page 11, September 17 — was the charity Sargent Cancer Care for Children (named after Sir Malcolm Sargent and nothing to do with Sargent).

IN A REVIEW of *The Anatomist* by Federico Andahaz, page 40, Saturday Review, September 19, we said the book was "subtly based" on the life of Mateo Renaldo Colombo, "the anatomist who

discovered and named... the clitoris." This is not correct. The clitoris and its function were well known to the Romans and referred to in both their popular and medical literature.

JAMES BOND's *amour de jour*, page 9, September 18, should have been his *amour de jour*.

IN AN article about the filming of *Rogue Trader*, Nick Leeson's story, pages 10 and 11, G2, September 17, the name of the director James Dearden was misspelled throughout. Apologies.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 235 9599 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC2R 2EE. Fax: 0171 235 9597. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

Death Notices

ROBINSON, Ernest James (late), on 21st September 1998, peacefully at 9 The Grosvenor, London SW1W 7EX. He was the son of the late Mr and Mrs John Robinson. He was married to the late Mrs Elizabeth Robinson and has three children: Mrs Elizabeth Robinson and her husband, Mr John Robinson, and Mrs Margaret Robinson and her husband, Mr John Robinson. He was a member of the Grosvenor Club. He was cremated on Thursday 24th September at 2.00pm, followed by a service in Grosvenor Cemetery. No flowers by request. Donations may be sent to: The Grosvenor Club, Grosvenor Gardens, London W1A 3AA. Tel: 0171 235 9597. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

In Memoriam

BAKER, Howard, 15.10.55 - 23.9.98. Always remembered with love.

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Analysis Performance drugs

Sport's excess phials

The death of athlete Florence Griffith Joyner at a young age is focusing attention on the use (and abuse) of performance-enhancing chemicals. It's a cat and mouse game, says **Vivek Chaudhary**, as sports stars avid for gold — symbolic and real — duck and weave to avoid detection

WHEN the Chinese swimmer Yuan Yuan arrived in Perth earlier this year Australian customs officials found more than just a swimming costume and a pair of goggles in her bag. The star of the 23-strong Chinese world championship swimming team was found to have 13 phials of the banned human growth hormone HGH, enough to supply the entire team for the duration of the tournament. She was banned from competitive swimming for four years, coach Zhou Zhenwen for 15 years and three other female swimmers were banned on testing positive for the diuretic compound Triamterene after a race. This drug is used to flush out substances such as anabolic steroids from competitors' systems to ensure that tests prove negative.

If proposals currently being advocated by the Australian prime minister, John Howard, for the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney had been in place when Yuan arrived, then she would have faced criminal prosecution and possible imprisonment and treated in the same way as those who are caught attempting to smuggle heroin or cocaine. With drugs and sport back in the public eye following the debacle of the Tour de France and the positive testing of at least two athletes for banned substances two months ago and now the death of Flo-Jo, the sports world again finds itself grappling with a recurring problem — how to improve detection procedures and clamp down on drugs.

Howard's call for state governments to introduce tougher laws finds an echo in a recent document by the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), whose similar proposal has been forwarded to

the International Olympic Committee (IOC). According to John Coates, president of the AOC, "Australia has the opportunity to lead the world in this regard. With the staging of the 2000 Olympics and the current international focus on doping in sport, now is the time to act positively if we're to be sure that the 2000 Games are not remembered as the drugs games, immediate action is required."

Drugs used to enhance performance are becoming more sophisticated, as are the methods used to prevent their detection. Sports administrators continually find themselves playing catch up with those who take the drugs. The drugs are usually taken as an integral part of a competitor's training programme. Steroids, for example, help athletes to train harder, human growth hormones help to develop muscles and other drugs, such as beta agonists, normally used to treat asthma sufferers, can reduce tiredness and increase competitiveness or aggression⁽¹⁾. There is an abundance of drugs on the ever-growing list of banned substances and calls have already been made from Olympic committees around the world to unify detection systems to keep up with the problem.

UNDER the existing system, out-of-competition testing in Britain is carried out by the UK Sports Council. Testing during competitions is overseen by the federation running the event, wherever it might be in the world, but during the Olympic Games the IOC is responsible. Steven Bird, a sports scientist at Canterbury Christ Church College, who was also a Sports Council drug tester for five years, said: "One of the biggest problems is that those involved in the detection of

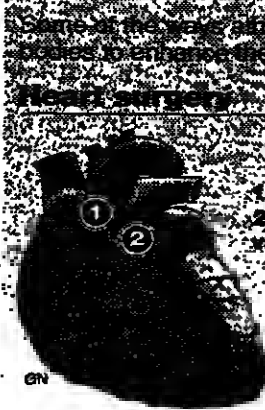
drugs are always having to guess what those taking them will do next. They know how the system works and can develop a fresh approach to avoiding detection."

Last month, the IOC announced plans for a central worldwide testing agency and the proposal is to be discussed at next February's world drug conference in Switzerland. The crucial question facing the IOC and other sports bodies is not only how to detect drugs such as steroids but also how deal with a batch of drugs that can circumnavigate existing laws.

ONE of the drugs found by customs agents in a van belonging to the Festina cycling team during the Tour de France was a biological compound known as erythro poietin, or EPO. If it had been injected by team members, who were eventually thrown out of the race, it would have been difficult to detect. EPO dries the bone marrow, helping to produce red blood cells which in turn helps to pump more oxygen around the body. Before the arrival of EPO sports people would carry out blood doping to produce a similar effect. This is when a pint of blood is taken out of the body, refrigerated and injected back into the body before competition, giving it extra oxygen-carrying capacity. But the problem facing testers is, as Dr Hugh Montgomery points out, that EPO is naturally produced by the kidneys⁽²⁾.

Dr Montgomery is a lecturer in cardiology and cardiovascular genetics who has been involved in research to identify a gene responsible for elite sporting performances. He said: "More sports people are moving towards taking biological compounds. It's very difficult to tell the difference between EPO that is injected and that which the kidney makes itself."

Built to win



Surgeons intervene physically to expand the capacity of the arterial system, to "open out" the heart valves to increase the flow of blood and pumping capacity, so increasing stamina

Muscle motor

Creatine phosphate. Extra amounts of this naturally occurring substance are used to relax muscles quickly, replace body mass and reduce muscle fatigue. It is used especially in sprinting to allow speedy recovery between sprints



Oxygen supply

One of the drugs found by customs agents in a van belonging to the Festina cycling team during the Tour de France was a biological compound known as erythro poietin or EPO. If it had not been found by the agents and had been injected by team members, who were eventually thrown out of the race, it would have been difficult to detect. EPO dries the bone marrow, helping to produce red blood cells which in turn help to pump more oxygen around the body. Before the arrival of EPO sports people would carry out blood doping to produce a similar effect. This is when a pint of blood is taken out of the body, refrigerated and injected back into the body prior to competition, giving it extra oxygen-carrying capacity. But the problem facing testers is that EPO is naturally produced by the kidneys.

Other methods are equally clever. Cyclists are known to undergo heart operations to widen the iliac artery and aid blood flow through the heart, thereby gaining an advantage. Nutritional supplements like creatine phosphate, which is found in muscles, are also becoming more popular. Neither of the two methods are prohibited as yet but they do present those who use them with an advantage over those who do not. According to Dr

Montgomery: "The jury is still very much out on the use of something like creatine phosphate. No one actually knows if it does make a difference to sporting performance, but say if it did? How could you prove that someone has taken it — it's natural and it also disappears very quickly into the circulation system."

Organisations such as the UK Sports Council and the British Olympic Association (BOA) believe that with drugs

becoming more sophisticated and effective the scientific approach needs to be combined with tougher sanctions and education. Simon Clegg of the BOA says that we need a unified doping policy for all Olympic sports because each one of the 35 bodies representing the different sports has its own policy.

"More funds also need to be made available on out-of-competition testing," he said, "and there needs to be more educa-

tion because many of the athletes have taken drugs inadvertently. Many banned substances are in everyday products. Drugs have always been an issue in sport and the IOC needs to show clear leadership."

David Mottram of the Liverpool John Moores university pharmacy school believes that government intervention is also needed. The Council of Europe Committee of Ministers adopted a resolution in



Terry Jones on Bill in the bathroom

1967 specifically referring to doping as cheating but little has been done since then by any government at any level. Mottram says: "If drug use and abuse in sport is to be treated seriously, it will require consolidated action, a joint commitment by sport, governments and others⁽³⁾. The IOC has already announced that it is to set up a group to look into the doping programme."

But while the headlines have focused on performance enhancing drugs, there remains the question of recreational drugs in sport, particularly in football. Should a player tested positive for smoking marijuana, for example, be banned from the game? Steve Double, spokesman for the Football Association, says yes. "There's an argument that marijuana has a detrimental effect on playing ability and if you are playing under its influence then you are letting down your team mates and the paying customers. Footballers have a very high profile and they are expected to behave like role models. They are professionals and are expected to perform to the best of their ability — any kind of drug abuse is a form of cheating."

AROUND 500 tests are carried out each season by the Sports Council on behalf of the FA, mostly at training grounds, with around 20 per cent carried out immediately after a match. Over the last four seasons 27 players have tested positive, largely for marijuana, cocaine or ecstasy. The trend is down, with three players testing positive last season compared with 12 four seasons ago. As yet there is little evidence of performance enhancing drugs being used by footballers. Mr Double says: "There is no evidence to suggest that there is a culture among footballers of taking drugs to improve their performance. Most of those who have tested positive have done so because they have been hanging around with the wrong crowd."

The FA now plans to introduce 1,000 tests a season and despite the shortage of evidence that drug abuse is rife it maintains that there should be no distinction between an athlete taking a drug to enhance performance and someone smoking a joint. According to Steve Double: "As far as we are concerned there is no difference. The offence is having a banned substance in your body — it doesn't matter which one it is."

With the rewards from sport increasing, the cat-and-mouse game being played by drug takers and drug detectors is sure to intensify over the coming months as advances are made in science and pharmacy and athletes prepare for the Olympic Games. Simon Clegg says: "Everything is up for review and discussion as we approach next February's drug conference. We need to get firm grip because it is the one thing that threatens the whole ethos of sport."

Sources: (1) Competitors' and Officials' Guide to Drugs and Sports, UK Sports Council, 1998; (2) Drugs in Sport and Politics, R. Vey 1991; (3) Drugs in Sport, edited by David R. Mottram, 1998.

Graphics: Paddy Allen, Stefan Bayley. Vivek Chaudhary is the Guardian's sports correspondent.

Flo-Jo's price of fame? Cover story, 62

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Employment credit and debit



Cheques out... Barclaycard has suffered in the plastic revolution from recent competition, especially supermarkets like Tesco which has issued a card

Notebook

Sovereign rule hits sour note

Edited by Mark Milner

NOT content with its one-size-fits-all interest rate policy, the European Central Bank has decided that one set of currency notes fits all, too. At very least, the 11 member states signing up for the euro for the first time round will not be able to opt for individuality by incorporating a national symbol on euro notes.

The decision was taken nearly two weeks ago, though nobody appeared to notice until ECB boss Wim Duisenberg told Euro parliamentarians yesterday. For euro-sceptics in Britain, the revelation was a golden opportunity. How, they demanded to know, could dastardly central bankers in Frankfurt plot to usurp the Queen, or at least her head, from the currency?

The ECB's governing council may well be wondering what all the fuss is about. Why should anyone get excited about whether or not their sovereign's head should be incorporated onto banknotes they have not even decided if they will use? Surely it is logical that a single currency should have a single form? Besides, one series of notes will be cheaper and less confusing.

Well, perhaps. But Europe as a concept, as opposed to a geographical expression, is about more than logic. Europe's politicians, with a reader perception of public opinion, wanted space left for national symbols. The ECB has ignored them. Little wonder that European integration and the institutions charged with driving it forward command little affection among Europe's citizens.

Simple truths

SO IT is not enough to try to keep the workers happy — at least not if the real objective is maximising profit.

This conclusion, from research at Warwick business school (reported on page 3), will delight those who scoff at the fashionable focus on "soft" issues of employee satisfaction and participation. But they should also note the continuing progress of Tesco, whose shares rose by 5 per cent yesterday after it delighted the City with another set of solid results and the promise of more to come.

Tesco did not get to the top of the supermarket tree by being mean to its checkout operators and the others among its 150,000 employees. The chain pays well even for those relatively menial jobs — well enough to bring complaints from other parts of the service sector which seeks to employ sweated labour. The supermarket group also encourages staff to join a trade

union, marking it out from many in retailing and other service businesses.

The Warwick research carries a warning, not for companies such as Tesco, which try to treat staff well but for business people and those who advise them — who believe they can deal in simple messages. Some among them would argue that making employees happy is all that is necessary to produce the kind of profits reported by Tesco yesterday. Others that it does not matter at all if employees are miserable.

The truth is more complicated. Many other factors influence profits as well as employee satisfaction. The knack of running a business, especially a big service business, is to balance the many variables.

Sometimes that might mean staff are less happy than they could be, or should be. The challenge is to maintain morale as high as possible given all the constraints, and to compensate people properly if business demands mean a hard time for employees.

Growth industry

THE balance of risk has shifted from one of concern about inadequate growth, according to William McDonough, head of the New York Federal Reserve and a member of the Fed's interest-rate setting open market committee yesterday.

That immediately had analysts pondering whether or not the Fed is about to cut rates. It looks a close call — though if it does cut, it will not be part of a co-ordinated effort among the Group of Seven leading industrialised countries; both Mr McDonough and ECB chief Wim Duisenberg ruled that out yesterday.

More to the point, it illustrates the shift in emphasis among the movers and shakers of global finance. Inflation, for a quarter of a century the central bankers' *noir*, is now having to play second fiddle to growth at the heart of policy. Mr McDonough is hardly first to say so. Finance ministers and central bankers from across the G7 have already made it clear they have signed up for the new thinking.

There is ample reason for the change of heart. The Asian crisis and subsequent knock-on effects is not just helping to keep inflation in check. Jobs are disappearing too; a phenomenon likely to be underlined by the International Labour Organisation's publication tomorrow.

Britain has by no means been immune. Barclaycard and Northern Western Trains yesterday became the latest in a lengthening line of companies announcing job losses. Yet a note of caution. The change in emphasis from inflation to growth is fine as long as policy makers see that switch in terms of Mr McDonough's balance of risk and do not turn the pursuit of growth into an obsession as they did with the fight against inflation.

Murdoch ties up German link

Chris Barrie

RUPERT Murdoch's plans to set up a pan-European media operation took a substantial step forward yesterday with confirmation that he and his partners are ready to invest up to £1.2 billion in the project.

Tarak Ben Ammar, an adviser to the Saudi investor Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, told the Bloomberg news agency that the prince, Mr Murdoch and Italian company Mediastet would buy up to 25 per cent of Kirch, the cash-strapped German group.

Mr Ammar, who also sits on the Mediastet board, indicated that the prince would confine his role to that of an investor, although the new venture

might co-operate with ART, a satellite TV firm which is partly owned by his Kingdom Holdings company.

A three-way investment in Kirch would create an embryonic media group that linked the German group's operations with Mr Murdoch's British Sky Broadcasting and Mediastet. There were indications last night that the alliance may also want a French partner.

Maurizio Carloti, Mediastet chief executive, confirmed the Murdoch-Mediastet-Kirch-Alwaleed line-up, telling Bloomberg: "The real challenge is to set up a European network that would compete and not just survive."

The Premier League in Britain played down suggestions that it will oppose Mr Murdoch's takeover of Manchester United.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

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Austria 19.21	Greece 474.28	Mexico 0.6198	South Africa 10.04
Belgium 58.78	Hong Kong 12.63	Netherlands 3.0855	Spain 232.72
Canada 2.49	India 71.55	New Zealand 3.27	Sweden 13.09
Cyprus 0.81	Ireland 1.09	Norway 12.29	Switzerland 2.26
Denmark 10.55	Israel 6.458	Portugal 200.31	Turkey 444.000
Finland 6.458	Italy 2.731	Saudi Arabia 8.18	USA 1.8310
France 6.20			

Supplied by Reuters (excluding rupee, shilling and malagasy)

Heavy job cuts on the cards at Barclays

Tom McGhie

BARCLAYCARD yesterday unveiled plans to axe a quarter of its workforce over the next three years. Around 1,100 staff at Britain's biggest and best-known credit card company have paid the price of rapid changes in computer information systems.

Most of the jobs will go at Barclaycard's Northampton headquarters but there will also be redundancies in Manchester, Telford, Kirkby and Birmingham.

Some of the redundant staff in Northampton may not have far to go for another job. Yesterday, Paolo Mello, managing director of People's Bank, also based in Northampton, said business was booming and the company was looking for recruits.

Barclaycard will now spend £20 million on a "major programme of change" to update technology to defend its diminishing market lead.

The move has been forced on Barclays, which employs 1,100 staff, after a steady profit decline from its credit card subsidiary. Last year, Barclaycard's operating profit fell 11 per cent to £23.5 million.

Several American banks, such as RBS Advanta and

The company was the first into the market in 1986. Today, however, there are around 1,300 companies issuing credit cards.

Rivals to Barclaycard, which still has 6.4 million cards, have had the advantage of newer technology. This has enabled them, in some cases, to offer more competitive rates.

When the new technology is installed it will enable one Barclaycard worker to deal with dozens of different types of queries, ranging from lost cards to new credit limits. Staff at present only have the technology to deal with one or two different functions.

Bob Potts, chief executive of Barclaycard, said: "Unfortunately we will be losing jobs over the next few years but I am afraid that this will be unavoidable as we introduce new, more advanced systems into the business, and change many of the processes we currently have."

"We have a strong business but we cannot afford to ignore the tough competition in the credit card market. We need to make the changes now while we are doing well."

The job losses are the first to be announced in the financial services sector for some time. But industry experts stressed yesterday that Barclaycard was not setting a trend.

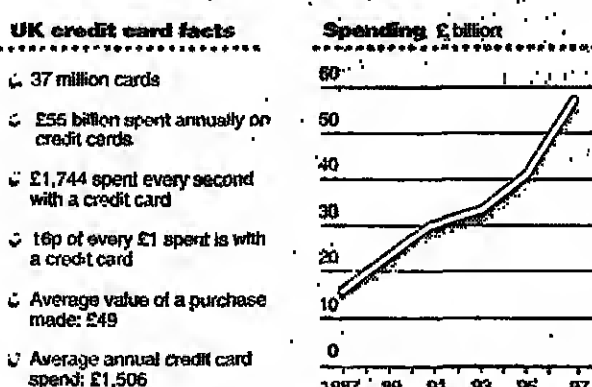
According to the Credit Card Research Group, 6,000 jobs have been created in the industry over the last five years and every month new credit cards arrive on the market.

Over the last four years there has been a boom in the number of companies offering cards — today it is possible to pick up plastic from banks, building societies, supermarkets, football clubs and even universities.

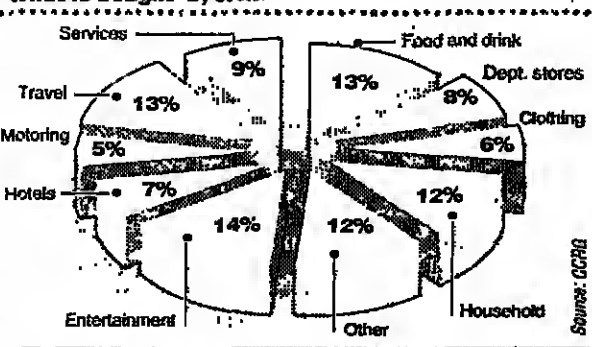
Several American banks, such as RBS Advanta and

Plastic explosion

- UK credit card facts
- 37 million cards
- £56 billion spent annually on credit cards
- £1,744 spent every second with a credit card
- 16p of every £1 spent is with a credit card
- Average value of a purchase made: £49
- Average annual credit card spend: £1,506



What is bought By sector



Capital One, have also moved into this area — offering "no frills" cards with low interest rates and no annual fee.

But it is the competition from supermarkets, which has finally forced Barclaycard to act. Tesco and Sainsbury's have recently introduced their own credit cards which double as reward cards. They have proved popular and have started to take market share from Barclaycard.

News of the redundancy announcement was greeted with dismay yesterday by union Susan Hamilton Smith, national officer for Unifl.

North Western to cut 200 jobs

Nicholas Bannister, Chief Business Correspondent

NORTH WESTERN Trains, the train operator serving Manchester and Liverpool, is to cut up to 200 jobs and increase prices by an average 10 per cent to try to save £5 million a year.

Worst hit will be passengers on its Manchester-London service, where fares will rise by up to

70 per cent. The company, part of the FirstGroup rail and bus business, blamed the moves on reduced government subsidies and falling passenger numbers. It is asking for voluntary redundancies among the 2,400 employees.

FirstGroup gained the North Western Trains franchise and Great Western Trains when it acquired Great Western Holdings in March. In July it had to admit that North Western's

Tesco to raise supermarket stakes by hiring 10,000

Roger Cowe

TESCO promised yesterday that its continuing drive to hold on to the number one position in the supermarket league would create 10,000 jobs this year.

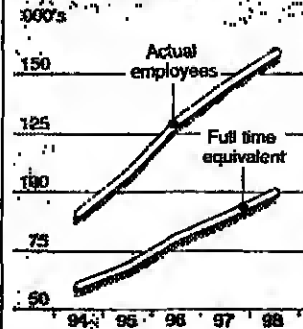
The additional employment — adding more than 6 per cent to its headcount — stems from new stores, extensions to existing sites and longer opening hours as well as the introduction of more service counters for products such as hot chicken and meat.

Most of the new jobs will be part-time and most will offer only unskilled work. But the group trumpeted its staff development programme, including 2,000 management trainees. The programme, known as Future, aims to simplify operations and is said to give staff more satisfying jobs and more contact with customers.

Most of the new jobs will come from the expansion programme, which is continuing despite opposition from planning authorities to new, edge-of-town superstores. Tesco has opened 10 new stores in the first half of the year and plans a further 12 in the next six months.

It is also keen to expand existing premises in many locations, converting standard

Tesco's workforce



superstores into the Extra hypermarket format. The prototype Extra at Pitsea, Essex, was opened in July by New Malden and last week by a store in Cardiff. Three more will open early next year.

At the other end of the scale, the chain hopes to take over the forecourt shops on 150 Esso petrol stations. The deal is being scrutinised by the Office of Fair Trading, which is concerned about a liaison between market leaders in petrol retailing and supermarkets, especially because the two compete strongly on petrol prices.

Tesco refused to give further details of the type of jobs which its expansion plan would create or the split between full-time and part-time work. But it is expected that the majority of the jobs will be part-time.

The group employs almost 160,000 people but the proportion of full-time jobs has fallen steadily over the past few years as opening hours have lengthened and work patterns have changed.

Tesco recently introduced round-the-clock opening in 64 stores while a further 200 remain open until 10pm every day. Expansion is also continuing abroad. It plans to open 10 hypermarkets next year in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, and to double its presence in Thailand.

Stress the biggest workplace hazard, survey reveals

TUC to push for code of conduct to reduce strain, says Mark Atkinson

STRESS at work is on the increase, with three-quarters of health and safety officers saying it is the biggest workplace hazard, according to a TUC survey published today.

The union body said it

would use the figures to increase pressure on the Health and Safety Executive and the CBI to agree to a legally-binding code of practice on preventing stress in the workplace.

"Only bad managers say

that stress is good for you," said John Monks, TUC general secretary.

These findings, from the union reps who are at the sharp end, show that stress is the number one health and safety problem at work, and that the problem is getting worse.

The main cause of stress was workloads and staffing levels, followed by new man-

agement techniques, long hours, shiftwork and bullying, according to the survey, which questioned 6,000 safety reps.

The problem was found to be most acute in the voluntary sector and central government, where 90 per cent of safety representatives said it was a major concern, followed by education (88 per cent), finance (84 per cent),

health service (82 per cent) and local government (81 per cent).

Stress was reported to be less serious in small firms than in larger establishments, probably reflecting "the way anonymous bureaucracies can make their workers feel powerless and unimportant," said the TUC.

After stress, the main workplace hazards were slips,

trips and falls, cited by nearly half of those questioned and back strains (44 per cent).

Repetitive strain injuries accounted for 37 per cent, followed by chemicals and solvents (33 per cent), noise (30 per cent) and violence (28 per cent). Violence was worst in the voluntary sector (46 per cent) but a much smaller problem in banks and finance (11 per cent).

مكتبة الامير

Cricket: farewell to the 1998 season

A half-hour that changed the force of England

Mike Selvey reviews the feats and farewells and sees an evening duel between Donald and Atherton as key to a change of fortune

IT TOOK little more than half an hour to transform the public perception of the English cricket team: 30-odd minutes in which they cast off the image of incompetent fall guys and became genuine forces. Suddenly laddo comedians were forced to look elsewhere for a hint of their gags.

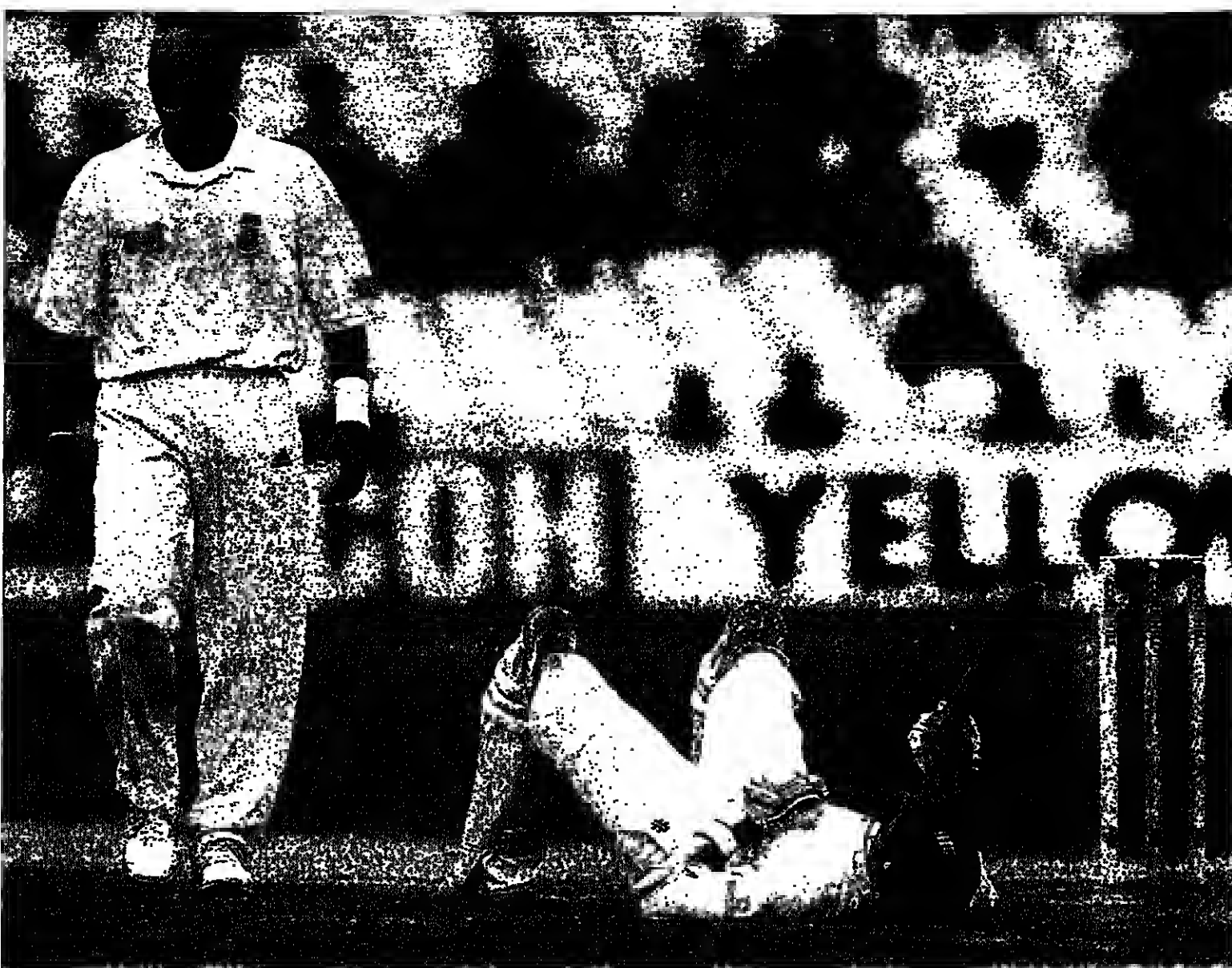
Mike Atherton can be blamed as the tiny tick to the wicketkeeper as the fourth day of the fourth Test against South Africa was drawing to a close. England, set to make 247 to win the game, had already lost a wicket, another might have proved the catalyst for a slide to defeat in match and series.

The former captain, to South African fury, stood his ground, and precipitated the most powerful advertisement for Test cricket this country had seen in 17 years, since Ian Botham launched his series of assaults on the Australians.

For half a dozen overs Atherton, the imperturbable rock of English batting, took the brunt of a ferocious assault, fuelled by the adrenalin of steaming anger, from the fastest bowler on the planet, and survived.

Alan Donald was that bowler and it was a brilliant contest: confrontational, skillful, athletic, brave and as competitive as cricket will allow. It was everything these two wonderful cricketers live for, the sheer crack of bowling like the wind and batting on a knife-edge.

The following day Trent Bridge was full to witness Atherton call on every ounce of his remarkable will-power to bat England to victory. South Africa, having been denied by a remarkable rearguard action in the previous match at Old Trafford, never recovered and at Headingley a fortnight later Alec Stewart and his England team com-



Turning point... Donald, vertical, and Atherton in the heat of battle at Trent Bridge when England, despite appearances, ceased being fall guys. CLIVE MASON

of the team depended on it: the all-round improvement of Jacques Kallis, and Hansie Cronje's cruel exposure of Ian Salisbury's frailty.

England's progress in the one-day game was less cer-

and AXA League have been phased out in favour of a two-day 50-over league; there is a one-day knock-out Super Cup for the sides that finished in the top eight of the County Championship, a good incentive this season; and the NatWest Trophy will run as usual, though the final is brought forward a week to try to reduce the loss-influenced one-sidedness that saw Lancashire win this year's trophy with barely half the scheduled overs completed.

In many eyes Lancashire will be viewed as the team of the year. In addition to their NatWest triumph they won the AXA League and, with a glorious charge, finished second in the County Championship. An early departure in the Benson and Hedges Cup, won by Essex, was their only limited solace available for England's Test series against Australia.

WASIM AKRAM, who is facing match-fixing allegations, and Waqar Younis, who has been injured, have made themselves available for Pakistan's Test series against Australia.

Waqar has had a damaged elbow and has not played since he turned out for Glamorgan in a NatWest Trophy match in

June, but he and his fellow paceman will be considered, according to Wasim Bari, Pakistan's chief selector.

Waqar, in particular, has had a change of heart. After an interim report by a Pakistan Cricket Board committee implicated him in possible match-fixing, along with Salim Malik and Ijaz Ahmed, he denied the alle-

gations and pledged to clear his name before taking any further part in international cricket.

The Australians are due to arrive in Pakistan tomorrow and before embarking their captain Mark Taylor said: "I hope the bribery issue gets handled very quickly. I would like to see the game taking the spotlight instead."

Prichard makes way for Hussain

PAUL PRICHARD has resigned as captain of Essex, who finished bottom of the County Championship table for only the second time. Nasser Hussain will succeed the 33-year-old, who took over from Graham Gooch in 1995.

Prichard led the county to three Lord's finals and scored 92 in the Benson and Hedges Cup final victory over Leicestershire in July. But he missed several weeks of the season through injury and in 10 championship matches totalling only 237 runs.

Peter Edwards, Essex's secretary and general manager, said: "It was with great reluctance that Paul's resignation was accepted, but he wants to concentrate on rediscovering his form and getting over his injury problems."

Worcestershire's captain Tom Moody has hinted that next season's County Championship may be his last. He has signed a one-year contract but said in Australia: "I will play as long as I am enjoying the game but I am not going to fall into the trap of turning out for the sake of turning out for the wrong reasons."

Chris Adams, the Sussex captain, is negotiating a £1 million contract that will persuade him to stay with the county for the next 10 years. The 28-year-old is believed already to be the highest-paid Englishman on the county circuit after signing a deal worth an estimated £100,000 a year when he joined Sussex from Derbyshire last winter.

Raj Maru, the Hampshire left-arm spinner formerly with Middlesex, is retiring after 15 years and 504 first-class wickets since leaving Lord's. Maru, 35, will remain with Hampshire as a youth development coach.



Prichard... hit by injury

Pakistan may find room for Wasim and Waqar

WASIM AKRAM, who is facing match-fixing allegations, and Waqar Younis, who has been injured, have made themselves available for Pakistan's Test series against Australia.

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June, but he and his fellow paceman will be considered, according to Wasim Bari, Pakistan's chief selector.

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First-class averages

BATTING

Minimum innings 5

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
J P Crawley	18	28	3	1851	239	74.04	6	5
J L Langer	11	12	2	704	185	70.40	2	3
J L Cullinan	12	17	3	892	210	63.71	4	2
G J Gifford	12	19	5	892	210	63.71	4	2
J L Langer	15	28	5	1448	233	62.56	4	2
B F Smith	15	24	4	1240	204	60.56	4	2
D S Lehmann	10	22	3	1139	241	58.14	3	2
M S Loe	15	22	2	1196	322	59.80	4	4
A Habib	18	22	5	962	198	56.00	3	3
J H Kallis	12	17	3	1024	115	55.80	2	2
M G Evans	12	19	2	935	149	55.00	3	4
N H Fairbrother	12	17	2	759	138	50.60	3	3
S P James	15	26	1	1339	227	49.58	4	4
D Brown	14	16	1	1036	155	49.50	2	2
A Smith	15	21	1	1024	115	49.50	2	2
S J Sanyal	5	8	1	382	213	47.75	1	0
K J Barnett	17	32	8	1229	167	47.26	1	7
M J Wood	15	29	6	1080	129	45.54	2	4
G L Leach	10	17	3	842	104	45.85	1	5
C L Hooper	18	21	1	1215	103	45.00	6	1
N V Knight	15	26	2	1069	192	44.54	4	4
M W Gatting	14	24	2	1139	241	44.54	4	4
A J Stewart	14	24	2	853	164	43.77	1	5
G A Hick	17	30	0	1304	186	43.46	7	2
M G N Windies	16	29	2	1173	151	43.44	4	4
J N Rhodes	11	14	1	892	103	43.23	2	1
M Ramprakash	15	26	3	803	139	43.00	1	5
W S Fendish	15	26	3	879	129	42.56	4	4
T M Moody	13	23	2	876	132	42.16	4	2
C J Adams	18	29	1	1174	170	41.92	4	4
G W White	19	31	2	1211	156	41.75	4	4
N M K Smith	18	25	5	1032	147	41.75	2	5
M P Vaughan	13	21	1	1181	177	41.46	2	2
G C Boon	18	29	4	1024	139	40.96	4	4
M A Butcher	16	24	2	1024	139	40.96	4	4
S L Crouch	14	26	2	962	165	40.61	2	3
I Ripley	17	22	2	805	209	40.25	1	5
E G Laro	14	21	1	1032	129	40.25	2	2
A Penberthy	14	21	1	838	101	39.72	2	1
M A Atherton	13	24	2	874	152	39.72	2	2
H P Tikkarath	8	1	0	317	120	39.56	0	1
G R Lloyd	15	22	1	831	212	39.57	2	3
O A Smith	15	23	3	786	140	39.30	2	2
R P Arnold	15	26	1	1112	206	39.00	1	6
M W Alwyn	18	33	2	1189	137	38.35	3	3
T H C Hancock	18	34	2	1227	220	38.34	2	4
P A Noun	16	21	4	638	101	37.52	2	1
R A Smith	17	25	2	833	139	37.08	3	2
W L Law	3	14	2	444	131	37.00	0	2
W N Hogg	15	21	4	838	151	36.84	2	2
V J Wells	17	25	3	936	171	36.34	3	3
A Singh	10	12	0	434	117	36.16	1	2
N Shahid	12	22	3	683	126	35.94	2	3
A N Ayres	18	27	6	754	133	35.90	2	3
S J Rhodes	15	23	6	853	100	35.71	1	6
M J Slater	14	24	0	848	185	35.33	1	3
M J Powell	18	27	3	840	106	35.00	0	3
J E Morris	16	22	3	1012	123	34.88	2	2
J E Morris	13	24	2	767	163	34.86	3	3
R T Robinson	11	18	2	553	114	34.56	1	4
R J Bailey	16	24	2	759	186	34.50	1	4
R P Arnold	14	16	0	548	111	34.25	1	2
J H Kallis	15	22	2	684	112	34.20	1	4
K J James	18	26	9	570	57	33.62	0	3
C L Lewis	13	14	3	367	97	33.36	0	4
D L Leach	12	21	5	532	86	33.25	0	4
A S Waugh	14	23	2	686	126	32.68	2	3
A S Rolles	10	19	0	818	107	32.52	1	1
T Frost	8	16	0	398	111	32.41	1	1
R C Iovel	18	33	2	1001	127	32.25	2	2
N M Curran	18	26	4	709	90	32.22	0	8
A Dale	19	33	3	1026	92	32.12	0	6
J H Kallis	16	18	1	578	79	31.84	0	7
J D Harrison	9	12	4	458	100	32.07	0	2
N W Byrne	8	12	4	256	69	32.00	0	1
K Newell	11	19	8	414	84	31.84	0	7
J J Scudliffe	17	31	1	896	157	31.72	1	2
A Dale	12	22	2	634	157	31.70	1	1
R M S Winstone	9	17	0	597	97	31.58	0	3
R A Innes	15	21	1	578	79	31.58	0	3
M E Trescothick	16	22	3	847	98	31.37	0	8
Wesley Akram	13	18	1	531	153	31.23	2	2
D Bena	18	21	1	842	116	31.18	1	4
I J Ward	10	18	0	591	105	31.10	1	4
N Hussain	10	18	0	591	105	31.10	1	4

BOWLING

Minimum wickets 20

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
M M Muralitharan	22	37	6	463	34	13.81	5	2
V J Virendra	19	31	6	514	38	14.27	1	0
C A Walsh	17	27	3	381	28	15.64	2	0
C A Walsh	63	104	16	1835	108	17.31	7	2
S M Muralitharan	47	75	11	1119	63	17.76	3	8
A B Muralitharan	44	71	12	1128	80	16.80	1	7
N P L Butcher	15	24	0	309	32	13.03	0	4

BATTING

Minimum innings 5

	100	50
74.04	6	5
70.40	2	3
63.71	4	2
62.56	4	2
60.56	3	4
59.80	3	4
56.00	3	3
55.80	2	3
55.00	3	4
50.60	3	3
49.58	4	4
49.50	2	2
47.75	1	0
47.26	1	7
45.85	4	5
45.00	6	1
44.54	4	4
43.77	1	5
43.46	7	2
43.44	4	4
43.23	2	1
43.00	1	5
42.56	4	4
42.16	4	2
41.92	4	4
41.75	2	5
41.75	3	5
40.86	3	6
40.61	2	4
40.54	3	5
39.73	2	3
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Zanardi signs for Williams, page 13

First-class averages in full, page 15

Can Hoddle weather the storm? page 14

Prichard quits as Essex captain, page 15

SportsGuardian

Juventus's prospective partners humbled by Northampton

Worthington Cup, second round, second leg: West Ham United 1 Northampton Town 0 (aggregate: 1-2)

Hammer horror for Old Lady

Joe Bernstein
sees Lampard's late
strike fail to save
Premiership side
from Upton Park
embarrassment

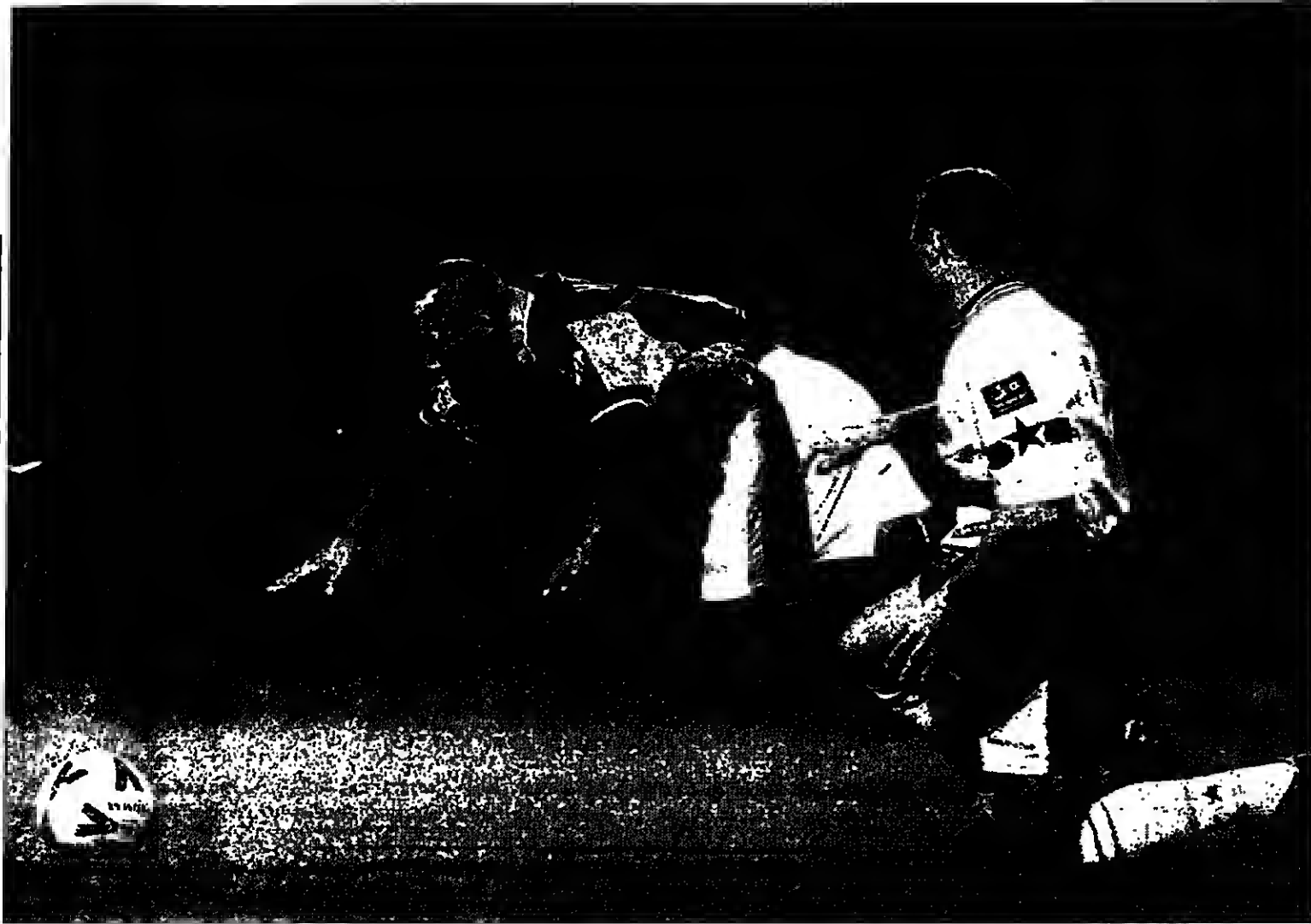
WEST HAM would hardly have impressed the Italian champions Juventus, who Harry Redknapp insists are interested in establishing close formal links with the Premiership club, by their early departure from this competition at the hands of Northampton. Frank Lampard did manage to reduce the aggregate but his headed goal came far too late to spare the Hammers' blushes.

The link-up may ultimately come to nothing, but it is hard to imagine Redknapp's team would have been facing elimination at the hands of an average Second Division team had they been able to call on a budding Alessandro Del Piero or Zinedine Zidane.

Redknapp has cleverly logged into the fantasy world which exists inside every fan by claiming that Juventus are very keen to form a special relationship with West Ham.

The Hammers' manager cited a three-hour meeting with Juventus's general manager Luciano Moggi in Rome at the weekend as evidence of La Vecchia Signora's (The Old Lady's) intention to lay down roots in London's East End. "It is clear they are really enthusiastic about linking up with us," Redknapp said.

The theory goes that the Turin club would invest in West Ham, perhaps even buying a significant stake, and offer them the pick of the best young stars not quite ready for Serie A and sell them big names such as Zidane when they are no longer wanted at the Stadio Delle Alpi.



Flight path... the West Ham United striker Ian Wright is upended by Sean Parrish of Northampton Town last night

PHOTOGRAPH: MARK THOMPSON

An influx of highly motivated young Italians and the odd ageing international would have done West Ham the world of good in a side lacking John Hartson, Neil Ruddock, Stan Lazaridis, John Moncur, Steve Lomas, Javier Murgas, Paul Kitson and Eyal Berkovic through injury. But

at least the crowd had their favourite, Julian Dicks, making a return after 18 months out with a knee injury.

The claret-and-blue army gave him a reception which sent a tingle down the spine. The roar which greeted his first touch, a long punt upfield to Ian Wright, could not

have been louder had West Ham pulled back their two-goal deficit from the first leg in the opening minute.

West Ham exerted heavy early pressure. Northampton's goalkeeper Andy Woodman performed heroics to turn away a low drive from Lampard and proved alert

when Wright tried to chip him from distance. Even Dicks caught the attacking bug, clipping a 25-yard drive wide in the 16th minute and then heading over from a Lampard corner.

Without the distractions of forthcoming international mergers, Northampton barricaded their penalty area. Defenders threw their bodies in the way of West Ham shots and put their heads where Dicks, let alone angels, would fear to tread.

The home side had a penalty appeal turned down, the referee rightly judging that Marc Kellier had been legitimately challenged by Ian Sampson. From the resulting corner Woodman produced a reflex save from Ian Pearce that brought gasps from the crowd.

Chris Freestone, whose two goals had accounted for West Ham at Sixfields Stadium in the first leg, missed a chance to put the tie beyond reach after 47 minutes. He charged down Andy Impey's clearance and galloped clear with only

West Ham's goalkeeper Shaka Hislop to beat. But his dribble around the keeper took too long and Impey was able to get back and back away the eventual shot.

Normal service resumed after that with all the action taking place in and around the Northampton penalty area. Wright hit a sizzling shot on the turn which Woodman kept out with a wonderful instinctive dive to his left. The striker was then left holding his head in disbelief when a 50th-minute header was hooked away by Roy Warburton from underneath the crossbar.

Northampton then had Duncan Spedding, who had come on for the injured Roy Hunter after 39 minutes, carried off on a stretcher to be replaced by Tony Dobson.

Another American golfer, Ben Hogan, who dominated the post-war, pre-Arnie Palmer days, is another who clearly made the icon cut. His fightback, after a serious road accident in 1949, is one of the

Dazzling icon will be forever tarnished by suspicion



Paul Weaver

POSTERITY will wear a furrowed brow when deciding where to lay to rest the name of Florence Griffith Joyner.

Should it be in the Pantheon or the laboratory, the Hall of Fame or the bathroom? Ultimately, it will probably be neither. She is unlikely to be remembered either as the fastest woman in the world or as some kind of ogre. Posterity, like Tony Blair, is likely to opt for the third way. Flo-Jo will end up in the Iconological Department.

She will be remembered as an icon of her age, just as the very different Fanny Blankers-Koen, the unglamorous "flying housewife" symbolised the dogged spirit of the Anvers Games, the London Olympic Games of 1948. Dear old Fanny probably thinks a drugs test is something you have to study for.

The now devalued Olympic Games are rather good at impinging upon even the non-sporting imagination.

Whether it is Harold Abrahams in 1924, Emil Zatopek in 1952, Olga Korbut in 1972, Nadia Comaneci in 1976 or Carl Lewis in 1984.

Flo-Jo, despite her three gold medals in Seoul 10 years ago, was a less substantial athlete than any of these. Yet she was also bigger than any of them. Like George Best and Babe Ruth, John McEnroe and Muhammad Ali, she was vastly symbolic, a representative of her dark and distorted day.

We are not talking great here. We are in icon territory, even if this is an equally subjective area. Bobby Jones, perhaps the greatest golfer the game has seen, was an icon, establishing a name and reputation far beyond his three Opens, his four US Opens, his 1930 Grand Slam and his 13 victories in the more 27 professional tournaments he entered.

Another American golfer, Ben Hogan, who dominated the post-war, pre-Arnie Palmer days, is another who clearly made the icon cut. His fightback, after a serious road accident in 1949, is one of the

most heroically romantic tales in all sports. Joe Louis made the weight as an icon. The Brown Bomber, who was heavy-weight champion of the world from 1937 until 1949, made 25 successful defences of his title before penury forced him to make an ill-judged comeback and he was beaten up by Rocky Marciano.

Another was Suzanne Lenglen, that most graceful of Frenchwomen who went unbeaten at Wimbledon for six years, who with grace, charm and a ballet dancer's feet generated unprecedented emotion and sense of theatre in her matches. So was Joe DiMaggio, the great baseball star whom many people thought dead but who is 83 and has an official day of tribute in New York on Sunday.

To associate the name of Griffith Joyner with such immortal figures as these is to feel guilty of something which might be described as a close relative of blasphemy. But when the history of sport is written she will fill a fat, artificially enhanced paragraph. Her place in history is so strongly etched it out with those long finger-nails of hers.

ASPORTING icon is more than a great player. It is someone who helps to define the essence of an era, whose contribution, whether benign or malign, shapes the yellowing pages of history. Griffith Joyner did that all right.

Unlike Ben Johnson, Flo-Jo did not test positive for drugs. But like Johnson she will be seen to represent that bleak era of lost innocence, when athletes' muscles bulged faster than Popeye's biceps after a canful of spinach, when records splintered and you could no longer believe the evidence of your own eyes, or of sophisticated chronometry for that matter.

In death, it would be nice to fold her away as a nice little morality play, a finger-wagging parable for today's young athletes. But sadly, even in death she is bound to exercise a huge influence. Ten years after breaking the world records for the 100 and 200 metres there are still young, honest athletes out there trying to match those times.

Gwen Torrence, the 1992 Olympic 200m champion, said: "Women sprinters are still suffering from what she did to the times in 1988. I don't acknowledge those as world records. I feel cheated." So do we all.

After 1 December

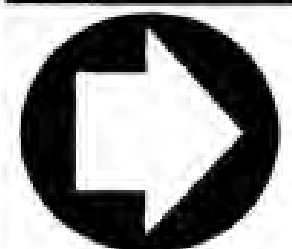
a change in the law could affect your business

if you have 15-19 employees.

Your business may need to consider changes in its working practices and recruitment policies from 1 December 1998. This is because the employment provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act are being extended to cover more employers and to help disabled people. You can expect more information in the post soon. In the meantime if you have any queries call 0345 622 633, quoting TOLN.

John

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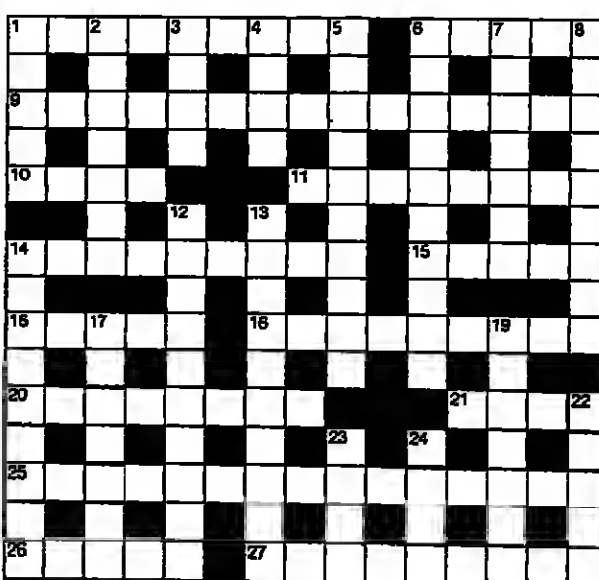
It may be that a man drawn to flirt and sexually conquer many of the women he encounters is driven not by some furious sexual appetite, but an inability to register deep distress in himself.

Susie Orbach

G2 p11

Guardian Crossword No 21,387

Set by Fawley

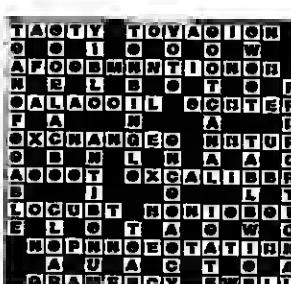


Across

- 1 Card game played in club that's flexible (6)
- 2 Author knocking back the drink before work? (5)
- 3 You could stuff this for a meal, or we've great lamb to cook (8,9)
- 10 Sharp, shrill sound from the old recording (4)
- 11 Varsity team-member heading line-out is an African runner (4,4)
- 14 What Sybil says when told she can't like a church? (5)
- 15 Easily aroused soft flesh (5)
- 16 Oddly seeing zeal displayed, without Italian in opera? (5)
- 18 One carelessly drops vehicle carried by 21, perhaps (5-3)
- 20 In mitigation, call me back for a dance (5-2)

Down

- 1 Against having group of women round for a drink (5)
- 2 Official ringing financial backers, with union involved (7)
- 3 Heroine of William's, not totally shrewd? (4)
- 4 Sellar up-ended another in the group (4)
- 5 Pat and Ella got together to determine how low this dress may be cut (4-6)
- 6 Be square, perhaps, interrupting when shown ballet postures (10)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 21,386

- 7 Mutes most of painful noise on single (7)
- 8 Prisoner the German had over a barrel — a volatile situation (6,3)
- 12 Tardy chess at first given a fresh start (5,5)
- 13 Climb over Naomi, perhaps, in a email car? (5,5)
- 14 Completed assembly of clutches? (8)
- 17 Excellent society in up-and-coming Cypriot community (7)
- 19 Symbols *hol polloi* display where 6 down may be seen (7)
- 22 One in the eye for New Yorkers — a big feature (5)
- 23 An Every Brother's to go to the top, we've heard (4)
- 24 Throw out second type of seating (4)

Solution tomorrow

25 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 330 222. Call cost 30p per minute at all times. Service supplied by ATS.



ASPREY